

Montgomery City-County Public Library
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes of
Thursday, July 16, 2015
4 PM

Julia Henig, Presiding

Members Present

Katie R. Bell Jim Earnhardt Thomas McPherson Leslie Sanders
Vanzetta McPherson Shakenya Calhoun Joseph Trimble Mary McLemore
Gary Burton Janice R. Franklin Chester D. Mallory Michael Briddell

Members Absent

Janet Waller, Excused Catherine Wright, Excused Courtney Williams, Excused
Betsy Atkins Amy Knudsen

Staff Present

Jaunita Owes Vivian White Rebie Morris

Call to Order: The bi-monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Montgomery City-County Public Library was called to order at 4:10 pm by President Julia Henig. The meeting convened in the second floor auditorium of the Juliette Hampton Morgan Library on the date and time noted above. Members listed above were present and a quorum was established.

Current Business

Minutes of June 11, 2015

Action

No action on the minutes of June 2015 was taken.

President's Report: Ms. Henig reported on the Mayor's Budget meeting held in early July. She indicated that the budget seemed acceptable to Mayor Strange with the requested budget cuts. Mr. Briddell explained the budget process as requested by Ms. Henig. Ms. Owes indicated that there will be an appeal made to the Commissioners on Monday at the monthly Commission meeting to provide additional funding for Books and Periodicals. Mr. Mallory voiced concerns regarding the budget meeting that he attended. Ms. Owes explained the process is that the budget is submitted to the Finance Director, the Finance Director meets with each Department Head and fine tune the budget before it is presented to the Mayor. The Department Heads meet with the Mayor, Cabinet Director and Finance Director to clarify and further fine tune the budget before it is accepted by the Mayor. The Mayor will meet later with the Finance Director to put the total budget together before it is presented to the Council. The Departments will not know specifically if their requested budget is approved until it is presented to the Council. Even after it has been presented to the Council there is another meeting with the Department Heads and the entire Council where they will review each line item in the full budget.

3. Update on Morgan Library Building: discussed during President's report

4. Director's Annual Appraisal: Ms. Henig explained the process for the annual appraisal of the Library Director and requested input from each member of the Board by July 23, to be sent directly to her. The Executive Committee will accumulate the responses and meet with Ms. Owes. Mr. Briddell encouraged everyone to get the appraisal back in by the date as the appraisal is due to the Personnel Department by the end of July.

New Business: Mr. Mallory suggested that the library pursue a partnership with MTECH. Ms. Owes explained while that sounds like a wonderful idea, we must be mindful of the fact that all libraries are not the same. School libraries focus primarily on support of their curriculum (teaching students to read, write, think and other skills for success); academic libraries focus on scholarly research as well as supporting the academic curriculum (teaching, forensic science, nursing, etc.); public libraries focus on general knowledge that helps a community to keep abreast of the changing world but not necessarily on the depth or focus of school and/or academic libraries. Of course that does not mean that we cannot break new ground, but we must realize that the needs of schools, academic and public patrons are different and unique.

Ms. Franklin agreed with Ms. Owes and stated that anything is possible however, in her professional opinion, a school or academic model would not be an appropriate match for our public library. *Dr. Franklin*

Miscellaneous: Ms. Bell commented on a recent Facebook post of Ms. Owes where she responded to a public comment made by a person on Talk Radio. The program leader suggested that MCCPL be closed as it was a waste of public money because everyone can find what they need on the Internet today. Ms. Bell commended Ms. Owes for her very polite response to someone who obviously is out of touch with validating and verifying information found on the Internet and suggested that she submit her response to the newspaper. Mr. Trimble asked for talking points to counter such discussions.

Adjournment: Being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Montgomery City-County Public Library Board of Trustees

Janet Waller, Secretary

Julia Henig

Julia Henig, President

Jaunita Owes

Jaunita Owes, Library Director

Approved: _____

10-15-15

DATE