MINUTES

Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting — February 15, 2011

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the Central Library, 14 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Kemper, President
                      David Mayta
                      Joan Caulfield
                      Rose Marie Bell
                      Fran Daniel
                      Leon Dixon
                      Olivia Dorsey
                      Billie Howard Barnes
                      Claudia Oñate Greim

STAFF PRESENT: Crosby Kemper III, Chief Executive
                Terry Anderson, Director of Collection Management
                Claudia Baker, Director of Development
                Lillie Brack, Central Library Director
                Dorothy Elliott, Deputy Executive Director for Branch and Outreach Services
                Jordan Fields, Digital Project Manager
                Henry Fortunato, Director of Public Affairs and Communication
                Kathleen Hinton, Finance Manager
                Jerry Houchins, Operations Manager
                Pam Kannady, Director of Human Resources
                Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, Deputy Director
                Heather Pedersen, Administrative Officer
                Debbie Siragusa, Chief Financial Officer
                Kaite Stover, Head of Reader Services

OTHERS PRESENT: Rhonda Patton

J. Kemper called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Daniel requested that the minutes of the January 18, 2011 Regular Board meeting be amended to correct the name of the community center from Sugar Creek Community Center to Fairmount Community Center. **Motion by Caulfield to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2011 Ad Hoc Committee on the Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc. meeting; the January 18, 2011 regular Board meeting as amended; and the January 28, 2011 Special Meeting (Retreat). Second by Bell. Approved unanimously.** (Note: As a matter of Board convention, the Chair votes only when his/her vote would affect the outcome of the vote. In all "recorded" votes, the vote of the Chair appears only when it has actually been cast and when it has had an effect on the disposition of the motion. Notations of "approved unanimously" mean all members, other than the Chair, voting affirmatively.)
J. Kemper reported to the Board on the January 28, 2011 retreat planning meeting. He stated that the group discussed the agenda and that a packet of materials had been sent out to retreat attendees to read in preparation for the Strategic Retreat.

J. Kemper reported to the Board on the February 15, 2011 Executive Committee meeting. He stated that the Committee discussed personnel matters and that no action was taken.

Discussing the financial reports C. Kemper stated that utilities are the one expenditure that is regularly over budget. He commented that part of this may be due to a particularly warm summer and cold winter this year, but that Houchins is reviewing the Library’s current energy plan and the Library may bring someone in to take a look at usage. Kositany-Buckner added that the Library is also looking into energy management of the Library’s computers. C. Kemper stated that revenue is higher than anticipated and that the Library plans to use some of the unbudgeted surplus revenue from TIF refunds and the Financial Institutions Tax on a capital expenditure plan. The plan focuses on one-time expenditures that will reduce costs in the long term and includes replacement of some of the vehicles in the Library’s fleet with more fuel efficient models that will require lower maintenance.

Motion by Dorsey to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Mayta. Approved unanimously. The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for January 2011: Payroll (01/27/11 net cash $204,159 plus taxes $75,293) and (02/10/11 net cash $199,582 plus taxes $73,731), total amount of $552,765; General Expense Payments including Checks (#150232-150465), in the amount of $628,033. (LBM 3639)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for January 2011. (LBM 3640)

Discussing the budget calendar C. Kemper stated that most of the timing of the calendar is mandated by law and is essentially the same as last year. He commented that early indications from the Assessor are that the numbers will be down anywhere from $500,000 to $1 million. The Library would likely recommend to the Board that any shortfall be managed through the same mechanisms that have been in place over the last year: reduced spending on supplies, delaying replacement of staff, and reduced capital expenditures. J. Kemper recommended that the Library evaluate which TIF project properties will be rolling onto the Library’s tax base over the next several years.

Motion by Mayta to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to adopt the attached Budget Calendar for Fiscal Year 2011–2012. Second by Dorsey. Approved unanimously. (LBM 3641)

C. Kemper discussed the Director’s Report with the Board. (LBM 3642) C. Kemper reported on the status of TIF legislation work by the Library and consultant Terry Ward. The Library is planning a meeting with the library directors who are interested in supporting the initiative and a meeting with the Kansas City School District has been requested. C. Kemper and Ward have discussed going to Jefferson City to sit down with several State Legislators to get their help with preliminary legislation. C. Kemper stated that the next phase of the initiative would likely cost about $30,000-$40,000 and that $17,000-$20,000 of this amount still needs to be raised. Goals for the legislation include: acquiring some level of veto power over the use of TIF funds, setting standards for both
economic development and blight, mandating an earlier end to all TIFs, and perhaps building in a piece about TIFs ending after the first sale of the property after the TIF is established.

C. Kemper reported that for the first time in recent history due to the weather the Library closed early one day and opened late the next day. He commented that the Library was open more hours during this storm than any other major library in the state and that the staff did a phenomenal job, in particular thanking Jerry Houchins and the Facilities staff as well as other staff who made it to work under trying conditions. Bell inquired as to the potential displacement of homeless patrons during the closures. C. Kemper responded that the shelters had extended hours during the inclement weather and that the primary concern was transportation. He commented that the Library would raise this issue at a future Homeless Coalition meeting.

Motion by Mayta to formally extend the appreciation of the full Board to Library staff for all of the extra effort and work done during the inclement weather. Second by Dorsey. Approved unanimously.

C. Kemper thanked the Board for their recognition of staff efforts. Fortunato discussed the programming highlights for January. Fortunato reported that the Library is working on a five year agreement to have military historians produce a series of talks about all of the key military engagements and campaigns of the Civil War with Fort Leavenworth and the Command and General Staff College. C. Kemper commented that the next installment in the Meet the Past series is going to be in association with the 200th birthday celebration of George Caleb Bingham at the Nelson-Atkins and that the Library is well underway to securing funding for a full second season of the series.

Dorsey left the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

C. Kemper extended an invitation to the Board to attend the staff Winterfest celebration on Saturday, February 19th.

Motion by Caulfield to convene a closed session under 610.021(3) RSMo to discuss personnel issues. Second by Mayta. Approved unanimously.

The Board was in closed session from 5:17 p.m. until 6:03 p.m. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.