MINUTES

Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – March 18, 2014

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. at the Central Library, 14 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

MEMBERS PRESENT:  
Jonathan Kemper, President
Claudia Oñate Greim
Rose Marie Bell
Leon Dixon
Olivia Dorsey
Billie Howard Barnes

MEMBERS ABSENT:  
David Mayta

STAFF PRESENT:  
Crosby Kemper III, Chief Executive
Reed Beebe, Purchasing Manager
Michael Bollinger, Director of Information Technology
Teresa Bolton, Customer Service Manager
Lillie Brack, Central Library Director
Marcus Brown, Digital Youth Engagement Associate
Andrea Ellis, Digital Youth Engagement Manager
Crystal Faris, Director of Teen Services
Naphtali Faris, Early Literacy Manager
Henry Fortunato, Director of Public Affairs and Library Communication
Dean Galloway, Operation Events Supervisor
Dennis Halbin, Senior Librarian – Collection Development
Kathleen Hinton, Finance Manager
Jerry Houchins, Operations Manager
Joel Jones, Deputy Director of Branch & Library Services
John Keogh, Digital User Specialist
Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, Deputy Director
David LaCrone, Digital Branch Manager
Eli Paul, Special Collections Manager
Bob Pedersen, Senior Human Resources
Heather Pedersen, Administrative Officer
Debbie Siragusa, Chief Financial Officer
Katie Taylor, Volunteer Coordinator
Mary Thompson, Outreach Manager
Steve Wieberg, Writer and Copy Editor
Steve Woolfolk, Assistant Director of Public Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT:  
Tom Platt

J. Kemper called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
Motion by Dorsey to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2014 regular Board meeting and the February 27, 2014 Ad Hoc Committee on the Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc. meeting. Second by Dixon. 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.)

Dorsey gave a report on the February 27th Ad Hoc Committee on the Black Archives of Mid-America, Inc. meeting. The committee discussed the status of the Archives collections, the development and executive director positions, plans for the 40th year anniversary of the Archives, and the redesigned website. C. Kemper added that Bank of America has committed to $50,000 per year for four years to support the development director position.

J. Kemper gave a report on the March 18th Finance and Audit Committee meeting. The Committee discussed the Library’s tax levy for 2014.

Motion by Dorsey to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive and the Finance and Audit Committee to designate the Chief Executive to informally project the Library’s nonbinding tax levy for tax year 2014 pursuant to the provisions of 137.243(1) RSMo (2010). (NOTE: As this action was recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee, no second was needed.) Approved unanimously. (LBM 3912)

Discussing the financials Siragusa reported that the Library’s Priority One funding has been approved but the Priority Two E-Rate application was denied, as were all Priority Two applications due to limited funds availability. The Library planned to use Priority Two funding for network equipment purchases so staff will bring a budget revision to the Board at a future meeting.

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

Move approval of the recommendation the Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for February 2014: Payroll (02/20/14 net cash $272,683 plus taxes $102,922) and (03/06/14 net cash $216,567 plus taxes $89,517), total amount of $681,689; General Expense Payments including Checks (#160754-160970), in the amount of $583,580. (LBM 3910)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for February 2014. (LBM 3911)

Ellis gave an update to the Board on the status of the Library’s Digital Inclusion Grant and Digital Media Labs program. The grant will allow the Library to expand the Digital Media Lab concept to a mobile version. Grant funds would pay for audio and visual equipment, laptops and related computer equipment, and a van to transport staff and equipment to Southeast and North-East Branches. She added that the grant is also covering the salary for a part-time Digital Youth Engagement Associate through December and introduced Marcus Brown, who was hired for the position. Brown has over 10 years of experience in AV production, website design, and in working directly with youth. One goal for the project is to develop sustainability by producing tangible outcomes (such as applications,
websites or products) and building relationships with committed mentors and interested students, which can be used to demonstrate to the community and to potential future funders that the process is effective. C. Kemper noted that the response to the project from youth and community has been strong, partnerships have already been formed with companies like Cerner and Microsoft, and there is also interest from national funders in what the Library is doing.

The Board agreed that the two agenda items related to purchases for the Digital Media Labs could be considered and voted on together.

**Motion by Dorsey to approve the following items from the Action Agenda: LBM 3913 and LBM 3914. Second by Dixon. Approved unanimously.**

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to purchase a vehicle for the Library’s Digital Inclusion Program from Thoroughbred Ford, Inc. for an amount not to exceed $12,000. (LBM 3913)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to purchase computer and 3D printer equipment for the Library’s Digital Inclusion Program from Microsoft Corporation for an amount not to exceed $14,786. (LBM 3914)

Howard Barnes left at 5:18 p.m.

Halbin gave a presentation to the Board on the status of the Ewing Kauffman Book Fund. This fund is designated to purchase materials that will enrich and create a perennial collection, primarily in the humanities. Halbin provided highlights for some of the materials purchased with this fund, including:

- Eighteenth Century Collections Online – containing 135,000 printed works comprising over 26 million scanned pages with full-text searching
- New materials for the Performing Editions Collection – orchestral performance material at Central which currently includes 300 titles or sets of music that are loaned to local community orchestras for the time needed for rehearsal and performance
- Over 1,000 titles have been added to the print collection since September
- The electronic materials purchased are owned by the Library and the platforms are on a subscription basis
- All items purchased through the Ewing Kauffman Book Fund are marked as being from this collection in the catalog and a page has been added to the website with links to all of the resources

The Board discussed the possibility of staff putting together a demonstration of how the collection could be used by students and educators, which would be presented to the Board at a future date, perhaps at a “lunch and learn” session.

C. Kemper discussed the Director’s Report with the Board. (LBM 3915) He reported that the Library has terminated the contract with the café vendor at Central and the café will
close on March 31st, remaining closed for a few months. Bolton will lead the process of experimenting with a scaled-down café run by the Library and staff will provide updates to the Board.

C. Kemper updated the Board on issues related to TIF and tax abatement, particularly relating to concerns about the Citadel Project.

C. Kemper announced that the Library would be receiving the American Library Association’s 2014 Excellence in Library Programming Award in recognition of the vintage Kansas City postcard exhibit and the community engagement and programming that related to the exhibit.

Motion by J. Kemper to commend Library staff, particularly Public Affairs and Missouri Valley Special Collections staffs, for their excellent work. Approved unanimously.

Oñate Greim left at 5:37 p.m.

Bell discussed some of the highlights from the 2014 PLA Conference, which she attended earlier this month in Indianapolis, Illinois.

Motion by Dixon to adjourn. Second by Bell. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Claudia

Secretary

Date