MINUTES

Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – March 17, 2015

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. at the Central Library, 14 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:  Kathryn Mallinson

STAFF PRESENT:  Crosby Kemper III, Chief Executive
                Reed Beebe, Purchasing Manager
                Michael Bollinger, Director of Information Technology
                Teresa Bolton, Assistant Director / Customer Services Manager
                Lillie Brack, Central Library Director
                Melissa Carle, Library Systems and Service Program Manager
                Andrea Ellis, Digital Youth Engagement Manager
                Crystal Faris, Director of Youth and Family Engagement
                Naphtali Faris, Early Literacy Manager
                Henry Fortunato, Director of Public Affairs and Marketing
                Kathleen Hinton, Finance Manager
                Jerry Houchins, Operations Manager
                Pam Kannady, Director of Human Resources
                Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, Deputy Director of Strategic Initiatives
                David LaCrone, Digital Branch Manager
                Kristin Nelson, Director of Development
                Eli Paul, Special Collections Manager
                Debbie Siragusa, Deputy of Director Administration / Chief Financial Officer
                Michael Sweeney, Black Archives Collection Librarian
                Mary Thompson, Director of Library Outreach & Community Engagement
                Steve Wieberg, Writer / Copy Editor
                Heather Zoellner, Executive Assistant / Manager of Executive Services

J. Kemper called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Motion by Bell to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015 regular Board meeting.  Second by Mayta.  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.)

Motion by Mayta to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Oñate Greim. 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 February 2015: Payroll (02/19/15 net cash $260,086 plus taxes $96,958) and (03/05/15 net cash $213,208 plus taxes $85,443), total amount of $655,695; General Expense Payments including Checks (#163817-164064), in the amount of $671,926. (LBM 4003)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for February 2015. (LBM 4004)

Mayta gave a report on the March 17th Finance and Audit Committee meeting. The Committee discussed the Library’s tax levy for 2015.

Motion by Mayta 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 2015 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 4005)

Motion by Bell to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to negotiate and execute a contract with Faire Consulting to provide professional development services for a three month period ending June 30, 2015 at a cost not to exceed $17,000, with the option to renew for two additional three month periods at a total cost not to exceed $51,000. Second by Mayta. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4006)

Kositany-Buckner gave a presentation to the Board on the status of the Library’s Digital Inclusion efforts. Highlights from the presentation include:

- Internet connection and access to technology are increasingly necessary in order to conduct business, access health information, do research, apply for jobs, complete school assignments, secure government services, and engage in day-to-day communications.
- The Library and its partners improve access through a variety of resources, including public computing centers, free Wi-Fi, online digital literacy programs, job application assistance, online early literacy, and homework help.
- National statistics show that 80% of employers require job application to be completed online and 32% of people rely on libraries for their internet access.
- Google’s pre-implementation study of access in Kansas City revealed that:
  - 35% of Kansas City residents do not have internet access at home,
  - 17% do not use internet at all, and
  - 70% of students in the Kansas City Missouri School District do not have access at home.
• Complicating the issue of connectivity is the fact that 40% of School District children have more than one address during the school year, which means that libraries and community centers may be the only stable access available and transportation modes in underserved populations makes proximity of these resources very important.
• Digital Inclusion strategies for immediate and future opportunities for expansion all require community-wide effort in order to have the needed impact.
• Community-wide efforts thus far, such as the Digital Inclusion Summit in October with over 250 attendees (fully supported by outside funders) and the Digital Inclusion website, have garnered considerable attention at both the local and national levels.

J. Kemper left at 5:28 p.m.

C. Kemper discussed the Director’s Report with the Board. (LBM 4007) He reported that the state cuts to library funding are still a concern and that he would be joining a group of metro area librarians, teens, and other library supporters traveling to Jefferson City on March 18, 2015, to meet with legislators and to stage a rally in support of restoring funding to public libraries.

**Motion by Dorsey to adjourn. Second by Oñate Greim. Approved unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.