MINUTES

Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – September 23, 2014

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, September 23, 2014 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  
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  
Naphtali Faris, Early Literacy Manager  
Kathleen Hinton, Finance Manager  
Jerry Houchins, Operations Manager  
Joel Jones, Director of Branch and Outreach Services  
Pam Kannady, Director of Human Resources  
Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, Deputy Director  
David LaCrone, Digital Branch Manager  
Eli Paul, Special Collections Manager  
Heather Pedersen, Administrative Officer  
Debbie Siragusa, Chief Financial Officer  
Mary Thompson, Director of Library Outreach & Community Engagement  
Steven Woolfolk, Assistant Director of Public Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT:  Tom Platt

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

J. Kemper opened the public hearing for the 2014 property tax rate and the final 2014 – 2015 budget and asked for questions and comments. There was no response from the public and J. Kemper closed the public hearing.

Motion by Mayta to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2014 Finance and Audit Committee meeting and the August 26, 2014 regular Board meeting. Second by Oñate Greim. 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.

Mayta reported on the September 23, 2014 Finance and Audit Committee meeting. He stated that the Committee had voted to recommend to the Board that it adopt the proposed ad valorem property tax rate and the Library's revised 2014 - 2015 operating budget, presented for the Board's consideration in LBM 3958 and LBM 3959, respectively.

Discussing the financial reports C. Kemper noted that the Library received formal notification from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation that the Library was awarded a $1.5 million operating grant, to be paid out over three years. The award is less than the prior award but the Kauffman Foundation encouraged the Library to apply to them for additional funding for special projects and initiatives. C. Kemper reported that although the reduction in operating revenue has resulted in the elimination of filming and most receptions for special events, the Library is actively seeking smaller grants to cover these costs for specific events.

Motion by Bell to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Dixon. 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 August 2014: Payroll (08/21/14 net cash $215,785 plus taxes $86,309) and (09/04/14 net cash $216,686 plus taxes $86,483), total amount of $605,263; General Expense Payments including Checks (#162376-162597), in the amount of $1,047,253. (LBM 3956)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for August 2014. (LBM 3957)

Motion by Mayta to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive and the Finance and Audit Committee to fix the Library's 2014 ad valorem tax rate at 50.00 cents per $100 assessed valuation pursuant to the provisions of 67.110 RSMo. (NOTE: As this action was recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee, no second was needed.) Approved unanimously. (LBM 3958)

Motion by Mayta to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive and the Finance and Audit Committee to adopt a 2014-2015 Library Operating Budget General Fund of $18,769,907, and approve changes in fund transfers as noted on the attached schedules. (NOTE: As this action was recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee, no second was needed.) Approved unanimously. (LBM 3959)

Discussing the East Mezzanine gallery space C. Kemper reported that the Library is in process of securing the additional funds needed to cover the costs of the gallery and will begin expending funds only after all of the funds are secured. (LBM 3960) Discussing terms of the acceptance letter accompanying the gift the Board agreed that, while it is the intent of the Library and the current Library Board to maintain the name indefinitely, the Board cannot commit to the naming of a facility or portion thereof in perpetuity as a matter of good governance. The Board agreed to accept the gift and the terms of the acceptance letter absent the requirement of perpetuity and directed Library staff to revise the acceptance letter and obtain an authorized signature of agreement to the modified terms from the donor's representative.
Motion by Dorsey to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to name the Central East Mezzanine’s gallery space the “Gabriella Polony & Rocky Mountain Gallery” as amended. Second by Mayta. Approved unanimously. (LBM 3960)

Motion by Mayta to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to contract with MTS Contracting, Inc. to provide repair services to the Kansas City Public Library’s parking garage for an amount not to exceed $35,000. Second by Bell. Approved unanimously. (LBM 3961)

Discussing the proposed contract with Faire Consulting C. Kemper noted that the Library will continue to search for a permanent Development Director. Having a contracted consultant on board will enable the Library to move forward with necessary fundraising activities in the interim.

Motion by Dorsey to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to negotiate and execute a contract with Faire Consulting, LLC to provide professional development services for a six month period at a total cost not to exceed $35,000. Second by Oñate Greim. Approved unanimously. (LBM 3962)

C. Kemper discussed the Director’s Report with the Board. (LBM 3963) He reported that the Library received a $225,000 bequest for audio books. The Library intends to put the funds into an endowment fund and will seek clarification of the donor’s intent to determine whether the funds can be expended on a broader range of audio technology, due to the rapid changes in how audio materials are accessed by patrons.

Motion by Mayta to adjourn. Second by Dorsey. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.