



Library Board of Trustees

Retreat

**The Duke Mansion, 400 Hermitage Road
Wednesday, April 6th, 2011**

10:30 a.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

*Robin Branstrom, Chair
Bob Sink, Vice Chair
Darrel Williams
Molly Griffin
Reneé Casali
Sally Robinson
Magdalena Maiz-Peña
Joan Martin*

TRUSTEES ABSENT (With Cause)

*Charles Bowman, Treasurer
Tami Simmons*

STAFF PRESENT

*Vick Phillips, Chief Executive Officer
Cordelia Anderson, Deputy Director
of Marketing & Communications
Karen Beach, Director of
Communication Engagement
Frank Blair, Director of Research,
Innovation and Strategy
Chuck Mallas, Director of Finance
Rick Ricker, Deputy Director of
Human Resources
David Singleton, Director of Library
Experiences
Linda Vitlar, Executive Assistant to
the Board*

OTHERS PRESENT

*Bob Stephens, Hamilton,
Moon, Stephens, Steele &
Martin PLLCJ
Dr. Jim Woodward, Chair, The
Future of the Library Task
Force
Sean Hogue, Library
Consultant
Amanda Anderson, President,
Friends of the Library*

MINUTES

Chief Executive Officer Vick Phillips welcomed the group back from a short break at 10:30 a.m.

He began by asking Attorney Bob Stephens to clarify the question posed by Vice Chair Bob Sink regarding the Library Board's meeting attendance policy. Mr. Stephens explained that in accordance with NC General Statute the attendance policy that applies to the Library Board requires that a Board Member may be removed after three consecutive meeting absences without cause. The Board asks that, if a member cannot be present for a meeting, a notification should be made to the Library. Mr. Stephens advised that at each meeting a motion to excuse for cause be written into the minutes. Mr. Phillips stated that both Tami Simmons and Charles Bowman indicated to Linda Vitlar that, due to previous business commitments that had them out of town, they would not be able to attend today's

regular & retreat meetings. Mr. Phillips added that Ms. Vitlar offered the Skype alternative and conference telephone if they could join the meeting during any part of the day.

The Library will make every effort to Board Members to accommodate their taking part in the meetings by providing either Skype or telephone conference. Mr. Phillips requested a motion to approve adding to the Board minutes members who are absent with cause. On a motion by Bob Sink, seconded by Sally Robinson, the Trustees unanimously approved adding to the Board minutes members who are absent with cause.

Mr. Phillips announced that an application for candidacy to fill the vacant position left by Belva Greenage was submitted by Ed Williams. He talked about Mr. Williams' background as former editor of the Charlotte Observer and his prior service to the Library as a member of The Future of the Library Task Force. The Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to make this appointment on April 19th at the regular BOCC meeting.

Mr. Phillips delivered an overview of the Retreat agenda.

He then highlighted the current relationship between Mecklenburg County and the Library. He stated that the Library is the managing partner that delivers services, and the County is the funding partner that provides the funding for those services. (Illustration Attached)

Mr. Phillips described each of the final 39 recommendations presented by the Future of the Library Task Force to the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners and the Library Board of Trustees on March 21st.

At 12:10 p.m. the Board adjourned for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1:19 p.m.

Mr. Phillips then asked the members of the Board if they would divide into three groups to discuss the 39 recommendations of the Task Force, follows:

Group A: Funding, Operations and Governance

Group B: Main & ImaginOn and Programming

Group C: Volunteers and Development & Fundraising.

Mr. Phillips asked each group to answer the following questions as it pertained to their topics: How will the recommendations impact Charlotte Mecklenburg Library? What issues/concerns do you have? Clarification, questions for Dr. Woodward?

At 2:15 p.m. the Trustees called for 15 minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

The Trustees' reported the following:

- 5% Volunteer goal is doable.
- Did the Task Force contemplate additional staff for raising \$1MM each year?
- Work on a plan for a Foundation
- Create outcomes for programming, i.e. skills, behavior, attitudes before/after summer reading, need for tracking, add parents comments
- Ensure per capita data is shared with the BOCC
- If the Library faces any closures; to work with the county staff and BOCC
- Work Group – Study of Main & ImaginOn - Fall 2011

Dr. Woodward joined the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

He commented on core services with regard to the Library's programs structure. Dr. Woodward also said that ImaginOn is a marvelous resource and that the funding given the Library does not recognize it as a crown jewel. It is possible the facility should be a separate and unique item. He talked about Main Library and believes its presence should be clarified. Dr. Woodward added with the current economic climate there is no quick fix, and we should develop a "wish plan". Mr. Williams asked for direction for the most effective way to present this information to the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners. Dr. Woodward talked about efficiencies and at some point the need to agree on the best "peer group".

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vick Phillips
Secretary