



Library Board of Trustees

Special Meeting

**Library Board of Trustees
Main Library, Dickson Boardroom
Monday, May 2, 2011**

4:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

*Robin Branstrom, Chair
Bob Sink, Vice Chair
Molly Griffin
Joan Martin*

TRUSTEES PRESENT via Telephone Conference

*Magdalena Maiz-Peña
Tami Simmons
Reneé Casali
Sally Robinson (joined the meeting
at 4:14 p.m.)*

TRUSTEES ABSENT (With Cause)

*Charles Bowman, Treasurer
Darrel Williams*

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

*Bob Stephens, Hamilton,
Moon, Stephens, Steele &
Martin PLLCJ
Sean Hogue, Library
Consultant
Ed Williams, Member of the
Future of the Library Task
Force
April Bethea, Charlotte
Observer*

MINUTES

Chair Robin Branstrom called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed guests April Bethea from the Charlotte Observer and Ed Williams, former member of The Future of the Library Task Force and current nominee to become a member of the Board of Trustees.

Ms. Branstrom introduced Deputy Director of Human Resources Rick Ricker who explained the new ID/access cards distributed to each Board Member. The ID card system allows Board Members access to the employee entrance and the Administration Office. Mr. Ricker will mail the ID cards to Board Members who were not present.

Attorney Stephens confirmed a quorum has been established.

Chair Branstrom then turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Bob Sink to discuss the work group report. Mr. Sink described the work of this group, the two meetings held to review the 39 recommendations made by The Future of the Library Task Force, and the group's unanimous decisions. Mr. Sink mentioned that CEO Vick Phillips facilitated the meetings and put forth ground rules that were also unanimously agreed upon. Mr. Sink went on to review the report (Full Report Attached) Trustee Molly Griffin commented that there was a lot of discussion around the "fragile neighborhood" designation. Ms. Griffin also added the criteria are not listed in order of importance.

Trustee Sally Robinson joined the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Chair Branstrom felt the work accomplished set the stage for a more compatible working relationship with Mecklenburg County going forward.

Trustee Griffin also thanked Mr. Phillips for organizing the meetings.

Ed Williams commented he felt there was a meeting of the minds between the Library Board and the Board of County Commissioners.

Chair Branstrom asked the Board of Trustees for approval and implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force work group. On a motion by Joan Martin, seconded by Bob Sink, the Trustees unanimously voted for approval and implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force work group.

Trustee Sally Robinson expressed her appreciation to Mr. Sink and Ms. Griffin for their service on the work group. Ms. Griffin commented that it was an honor to serve on the work group.

Mr. Phillips explained the Functional Consolidation plan and outcomes that affects the following areas of the Library;

1. Consistent with the Steering Committee's recommendations, continue to operate financial management functions separate, as they are currently operated.
2. Consistent with the Committee's recommendations, consolidate Public Library Human Resources within the County's Human Resources Department.
3. Consistent with the Committee's recommendations, consolidate several Public Library IT functions within the County's Information Services & Technology Department (IST). These functions are: helpdesk/desktop support; network,

server & telecommunications; a portion of applications support and development, and IT project management.

4. Consistent with the Committee's recommendations, consolidate Capital Projects Management within the County's Real Estate Services Department.
5. Do not consolidate the Public Library Communications/Marketing within Mecklenburg County Public Service & Information. Instead, build and enhance an intentional alliance/collaboration of mutual resource sharing and support.

Consolidation of these functions will result in the elimination of two Public Library positions, an annual savings of approximately \$137,500, and the transfer of 10 Public Library positions to Mecklenburg County (two in Human Resources; eight in IST). Although full implementation will require a transition period that varies by function, the consolidation will be effective July 1, 2011.

The Trustees asked many questions about cost saving, efficiencies and functionality; and whether this is a long-term solution for the Library. Mr. Sink commented on the positive aspects of the Functional Consolidation Plan. He pointed to the expertise of County staff and Library staff to address issues in technology. Mr. Sink further agreed with the recommendations about Finance, HR and Communications, and Capital Projects.

Chair Branstrom asked the Board of Trustees to approve the Functional Consolidation Plan and proceed without the necessity of convening the County-Library subcommittee to review functional consolidation. On a motion by Molly Griffin, seconded by Bob Sink, the Trustees unanimously approved the Functional Consolidation Plan and to proceed without the necessity of convening the subcommittee.

Chair Robin Branstrom asked Director of Finance Chuck Mallas to report on the Friends of the Library book sale in the absence of President Amanda Andersen. Mr. Mallas estimated that book sale will generate approximately \$25,000 in sales. Ms. Branstrom added that the community donated an overwhelming number of books. Ms. Branstrom also thanked Jane McNeary and all the members of the Friends and volunteers who worked so diligently on the book sale.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vick Phillips
Secretary