

**INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 19, 2009**

\*\*\*\*\*

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board met at the College Branch Library, 4180 North College Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana, on Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., pursuant to notice given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

**1. Call To Order**

President Lynch presided as Chairman. Secretary Bacon was present.

**2. Roll Call**

Members present: Mr. Bacon, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Rothe, Mr. Shevlot and Ms. Turner-Wright.

Member absent: Mr. Lingenfelter.

**3. Branch Manager's Report**

Nicole James, Manager, College Branch, briefly discussed the report that had been distributed to the Board at the meeting. She mentioned that the Board's last visit to the branch was in July 2007. The branch continues to work with the surrounding neighborhood organizations including the Meridian-Kessler Neighborhood Association and the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association. She advised that patron visits were down by 9% in 2008, compared to 2007. Ms. James attributed this decline to the opening of Central Library and the completion of construction at the Glendale Branch. She went on to discuss the branch's collaboration with the Martin Luther King Center and the efforts to make patrons aware of the Center's resources. She then reported on the branch's emphasis on children's and teen programming including Read Across America, Picturing America and the Future Artists Show and Sale. She stated that there is also an increased demand for branch computers. Lastly, she noted that the branch continues to experience various patron behavior problems, particularly with teens.

**4. Public Comment and Communications**

**a. Public Comment**

There were no petitions to come before the Board.

**b. Dear CEO Letters and Responses were circulated.**

- c. **Correspondence** was circulated for the Board's general information.

**5. Approval Of Minutes: Executive Session, Regular and Special Meetings**

- a. **Executive Session, February 19, 2009**

The minutes from the Executive Session held February 19, 2009 had been distributed to the Board.

The minutes were approved as written upon the motion of Ms. Rothe, seconded by Mr. Meyer, and the "yes" votes of Mr. Bacon, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Rothe, Mr. Shevlot and Ms. Turner-Wright.

- b. **Regular Meeting, February 19, 2009**

The minutes from the Regular Meeting held February 19, 2009 had been distributed to the Board.

The minutes were approved as written upon the motion of Mr. Meyer, seconded by Ms. Rothe, and the "yes" votes of Mr. Bacon, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Rothe, Mr. Shevlot and Ms. Turner-Wright.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**6. Finance Committee (Thomas S. Shevlot, Chair; Mary Lou Rothe, Marie Turner-Wright)**

- a. **Report of the Treasurer – February 2009**

Becky Dixon, Chief Financial Officer, briefly discussed the February, 2009 Report of the Treasurer that had been distributed to the Board. She mentioned that for the month of February, actual expenditures, less investments and debt payments, were 6.8% less than projected. Actual revenue, less taxes and investments, was 1% higher than projected.

February, 2009 expenditures, less investments and debt, were 2% less than February, 2008.

February, 2009 receipts, less taxes, were 2% less than February, 2008.

Fines revenue is down by 3% compared to February, 2008.

Mr. Shevlot made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meyer, that the Report of the Treasurer be filed for audit.

Motion carried.

The Report is attached to, and made a part of, these minutes.

- b. **President Lynch will Convene a Public Hearing**

Mr. Lynch announced that this Public Hearing was being held to consider the appropriation of money in the Library's Rainy Day Fund.

1) **Discussion of Appropriation of Money in the Rainy Day Fund as Advertised on March 6, 2009 in the *Indianapolis Star* and the *Indianapolis Recorder***

Ms. Dixon then discussed the proposed appropriation. She noted that the Rainy Day Fund was established to receive and disburse funds from various settlements related to the Central Library garage project. An appropriation for the Fund must be done annually. Additionally, a Bond Defeasement Program was set up to retire debt as Rainy Day Funds were received. The Board approved the funds to be used for expenses related to the Defeasement Program and for costs associated with lawsuits concerning the construction project. At the end of 2008, the Library had unspent funds left from the original appropriation along with additional settlement funds received after the original appropriation and funds received from the sale of property not part of the original appropriation. At this time, the Library wishes to appropriate the additional funds received along with the 2008 balance in order to move forward with the 2008 Defeasement Program. Ms. Dixon advised that defeasing the eligible bonds early would save the taxpayers \$13.4 million over the life of the debt.

2) **Invite Public Comment from the Audience**

President Lynch invited public comment at this time.

Elsa Kramer, former IMCPL Board member, addressed the Board. She asked Ms. Dixon if the Rainy Day Fund proceeds were being used to pay legal fees for the Central Library project. Ms. Dixon confirmed that monies from that Fund were being used for that purpose.

Ms. Kramer then asked for clarification of the total amount of legal fees that have been paid on the Central Library project since approximately 2004. She noted that the *Indianapolis Star* appeared to have an incorrect amount cited in their latest article on the Library. Ms. Dixon advised that she thought the amount of legal fees paid to date was approximately \$14 million. Ms. Kramer asked Ms. Dixon to explain why the newspaper was using \$8 million as the amount for legal fees. Ms. Dixon noted that perhaps they were looking at just the current amount. Ms. Kramer stated that the newspaper used the \$8 million figure last year and again three months ago in a story. Ms. Dixon went on to explain that there are two parts; namely, there are the actual legal fees and then there are costs for the experts/printing/etc. that are an additional expense. Both the fees and the expert/printing/etc. costs are then included in the total sum for legal fees. She feels the newspaper is using the amount for the actual legal fees and not including the amount paid out for the experts/printing/etc. Ms. Kramer then asked if the *Star* has access to all the Library's legal billings for the Central Project. Mr. Meyer stated that the *Star* receives a copy (redacted) of the invoice for legal/expert/printing/etc. fees each month. Ms. Kramer then inquired about the average monthly expense being paid from the Library's Rainy Day Fund for these expenses. Ms. Dixon responded that it has been running around \$300,000 per month.

Ms. Kramer went on to ask if the Library would be appealing any decisions by the court that were not in the Library's favor. Robert Scott, the Library's attorney,

advised that there is an appeal currently pending and more appeals could be filed from the trial now taking place in Boone County.

Ms. Kramer stated that she felt the taxpayers should hear about the legal costs associated with the project each month because what the *Star* has been reporting is not accurate.

Ms. Rothe mentioned that the information concerning legal expenses for the project are actually contained in the material presented as part of the Building Committee presentation to the Board each month. This information is available for public review.

**President Lynch Will Consider a Motion to Close the Public Hearing**

Ms. Rothe made the motion to close the Public Hearing. Mr. Shevlot seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

The Public Hearing was closed at this time.

*President Lynch reconvened the Regular Meeting.*

c. **Resolution 12 – 2009** (Authorizing and Appropriation Resolution)

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 12 – 2009, the resolution was adopted upon the motion of Mr. Shevlot, seconded by Mr. Meyer, and the “yes” votes of Mr. Bacon, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Rothe, Mr. Shevlot and Ms. Turner-Wright.

Motion carried.

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

d. **Resolution 13 – 2009** (Authorization of the Chief Executive Officer to Negotiate and Execute a Contract for Banking Services)

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 13 – 2009, the resolution was adopted upon the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Meyer, and the “yes” votes of Mr. Bacon, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Rothe, Mr. Shevlot and Ms. Turner-Wright.

Motion carried.

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

e. **Finance Committee Notes – March 9, 2009** were distributed to the Board for their general information and are attached to these minutes.

**7. Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee (Richard K. Bacon, Chair; Jesse B. Lynch, Mary Lou Rothe)**

- a. **Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee Notes – March 9, 2009** were distributed to the Board for their general information and are attached to these minutes.
- b. **Resolution 15 – 2009** (Grievance Review) (*Item was presented at the meeting*)

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 15 – 2009, the resolution was adopted upon the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Meyer, and the “yes” votes of Mr. Bacon, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Rothe, Mr. Shevlot and Ms. Turner-Wright.

Motion carried.

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

**8. Building Committee (Gary Meyer, Chair; Richard K. Bacon, Jim Lingenfelter)**

- a. **Central Project Construction Team Update** – Mr. Meyer discussed the Central Library Project Update that had been distributed to the Board. He noted that there are only three contracts left on the project that still need to be closed out.

A copy of the Update is attached to these minutes.

- b. **Branch Status Report – February 28, 2009** was distributed to the Board for their review and information. A copy of the Report is attached to these minutes.

**9. Governmental Affairs Committee (Jim Lingenfelter, Chair; Thomas S. Shevlot, Marie Turner-Wright)**

Laura Johnson, IMCPL Staff Liaison to the Committee, addressed the Board. She reported on the recent action concerning SB348. It was noted that SB348, which was intended to create countywide library planning committees with an eye toward possible consolidation of library services, has been defeated. Ms. Johnson advised that nothing else of major significance to public libraries appears to be under consideration during this session. Updates will continue to be sent as needed.

**10. Library Foundation Update (Thomas S. Shevlot, Library Board Representative)**

**March 2009 Library Foundation Update** – Mr. Shevlot reviewed the Foundation’s activities. Some of the highlights were as follows:

- Last month, the Library Foundation received many gifts. The top corporate and foundation contributors included:

- Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance – General Fund

- The Arts Council and the City of Indianapolis – Arts Programs
- CD-COM Systems Midwest, Inc. – Pike Branch
- Public nominations for the inaugural Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award are being accepted now through April 8, 2009. This award seeks to recognize the contribution of Indiana authors to the literary landscape in Indiana and across the nation, and is made possible by the generosity of The Glick Fund, a fund of the Central Indiana Community Foundation. A statewide panel will select a national, regional, and emerging author from nominations sent in by the public. Winning authors will each receive a cash prize ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and will be able to designate their hometown Indiana public library as the recipient of an additional \$2,500 grant. On September 26, 2009, the Library Foundation will host a day of activities culminating with an Awards Dinner at Indianapolis’ downtown Central Library. For more information, visit [www.indianaauthorsaward.org](http://www.indianaauthorsaward.org).
- Thanks to One America for its generous support of the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Meet the Artist event at Central Library. Nearly 1,500 people attended this year’s event. Attendees enjoyed a wide range of arts experiences, with paintings, sculptures, and other visual art placed throughout Central, as well as live drums, dance, poetry readings, jazz, a fashion show, and more.
- As part of the Kids Explore series, the Wayne Branch held a Chinese New Year celebration this January for neighborhood children. More than 40 kids learned about Chinese culture and traditions through fun activities such as story times, Zodiac stations, arts and crafts, learning to use chopsticks and more. The program’s grand finale was a dragon parade through the branch where children showed off masks they had made. This program was funded through the Foundation’s Branch Wish List.

## 11. Report Of The Chief Executive Officer

### a. Statistics – February, 2009 were distributed to the Board.

Laura Bramble, Chief Executive Officer, advised that patron visits were up 1.2% in February 2009 compared to February 2008. Circulation was up 6.9%, computer use was up 31.2%, web branch visits were up 12/7%, requests placed were up 4.5%, and holds filled were up 10.3%. Also, there were 3,736 new borrowers registered in February 2009.

Ms. Rothe mentioned that she missed seeing the branch statistics on the report each month.

### b. Presentation of 2008 Annual Report

Jon Barnes, of the Communications and Community Relations Services Area, distributed copies of the IMCPL 2008 Annual Report to the Board members. Mr. Barnes pointed out that the theme of the Report is “A Proud Tradition”, which relates to the Library’s 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service in 2008. He also reminded everyone that the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Foundation shares in the cost of printing the Annual Report each year.

Mr. Lynch congratulated Mr. Barnes on the Report. He commented that it was both informative and attractive.

c. **Confirming Resolutions:**

1) **Resolution Regarding Finances, Personnel and Travel (14 – 2009)**

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 14 – 2009, the resolution was adopted the motion of Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr. Shevlot, and the “yes” votes of Mr. Bacon, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Rothe, Mr. Shevlot and Ms. Turner-Wright.

Motion carried.

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

12. None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

13. None.

**AGENDA BUILDING**

14. **Future Agenda Items** - This time was made available for discussion items not on the Agenda, which were of interest to Library Board members and the opportunity was made to suggest items that should be included on future Library Board Meeting Agendas.

Items suggested for upcoming Board Agendas are as follows:

**April, 2009 -** To Be Determined

**INFORMATION**

15. **Materials**

The following materials were distributed to the Board for their general information:

- a. *ULC Exchange* (March 2009)
- b. *American Libraries* (March 2009)
- c. *Public Libraries* (March 2009)

16. **Board Meeting Schedule for 2009 (Notice of Date and Place of Meeting) and Upcoming Events**

- a. **Schedule of Board Meetings – 2009** - *Current calendar will be updated each month, as necessary, and additional information highlighted.*
- b. Library Programs and/or Free Upcoming Events through April 15, 2009 were distributed to the Board.

**17. Notice of Special Meetings**

None.

**18. Notice of Next Regular Meeting**

Thursday, April 16, 2009, at the Decatur Branch Library, 5301 Kentucky Avenue, at 6:30 p.m.

**19. Other Business**

None.

**20. Adjournment**

The Secretary announced that there was no further business to come before the Board.

The Chairman then declared the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

A DVD of this meeting is on file in the Library's administration office.

---

Richard K. Bacon, Secretary to the Board

