

**MINUTES OF THE BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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Bloomfield Township Public Library  
Oakland County, Michigan  
**Tuesday, October 16, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Bloomfield Township Public Library Board was held in the Library on Tuesday, October 16, 2007. The meeting was called to order by John D. MacInnes at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Trustees: James Bohlander, Margaret Cohen, John D. MacInnes, Rodman N. Myers, Robert Spencer

**Unable to attend:** Isabelle Charnov

**Administration:** Director, Karen Kotulis-Carter; Assistant Director, Ceci Marlow Stuart

**Guests:** Ruweed Bibi, SOC Representative; Dan Walker, a member of the Board of Directors, United Homeowners Association

Upon discussion, a motion was made by Rod Myers, seconded by James Bohlander **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF ITEMS AS LISTED ON THE AGENDA AND THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED.** Motion carried.

**President's Verbal Report:**

Mr. MacInnes reported of his presentation to the members of the Episcopal Church Women of Christ Church Cranbrook about the library. As most are aware, this church is one of the ten largest congregations in the Episcopal Church of America and also that it is located in the City of Bloomfield Hills. As he viewed the gathering audience, he noted that it was almost a 50-50 split of women—half Township, half City residents. The presentation made was balanced, informative, and not biased. It also provided a chance to get feedback of what different members feel about Bloomfield Township Public Library. He talked with the Verger, or building manager, of the church. A downriver resident whose home library was not convenient, had been using the Township library. A second person he talked with was Nick Gangadharan from the staff who had accompanied him to set up the equipment for the presentation. Nick had attended Cranbrook, is a resident of the City, and a student at Oakland University. The third person was the rector, Ed Mullins, who commented that he is not permitted to get into this library. John corrected this misunderstanding, and offered a personal tour. The rector said that he had gone to the City's Mayor and informed her that because the City has no library, has no contract for library services, and is doing nothing to build its own library the policy needed to be changed. (The rector went on further to state that it makes little difference since he uses the Internet anyways.) The Episcopal Church Women were very gracious

and had compliments and comments which were quite cordial. John felt that their comments were most appreciative of the explanation in the presentation regarding the distinction between nonresidents of other communities who have libraries and nonresidents of communities who pay no taxes to support and whose city does not have a library. It was an interesting snapshot of people's sharing their reactions to the relationship of this library with the City.

### **Director's Verbal Report:**

Karen Kotulis-Carter introduced Karen Imarisio, Adult Services Assistant Department Head, who is here to present briefly on a new service MyLibrarydv, as well as briefly discuss the Un-Shelved: An Altered Book Project collaboration with Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Center and Cranbrook Art Academy.

About 500 digital videos are offered to our authenticated library cardholders. Once the software is installed, the user can get into the collection. The collection available here is award-winning documentaries, travel, cooking shows, classic movies, foreign films, health, how-to, and more from the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) as well as many more quality producers. A new version of our current package will also include children's videos.

Ms. Imarisio then discussed the Un-Shelved: An Altered Book Project. Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Center and Cranbrook were excited about the collaboration. The Friends offered both funding and the used books for altering. This weekend (October 12-14) was the launch with demonstrations of how to alter a book, along with used book distributions. BBAC, Cranbrook Art Academy, and the library will exhibit selected works in February. Submissions are due February 1 and 2 to BBAC. Karen Kotulis-Carter is very excited about the collaboration and the opportunity this represents for the community.

### **CONSENT AGENDA MOTION**

After discussion, a motion was made by Rodman Myers, seconded by James Bohlander **TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE EXCEPTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING: MEETING MINUTES; CASH DISBURSEMENTS; MONTHLY REVENUES & EXPENDITURES; MONTHLY DIRECTOR'S REPORT.** Motion carried.

### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

Call to the Public:

John D. MacInnes welcomed Ruweed Bibi, S.O.C. Representative and Township resident, and Dan Walker, a member of the Board of Directors, United Homeowners Association.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*Policy Review - Development Policy*

The Policy Committee recommended approval of the revision of the Fund-raising and Endowment Policy, retitled, Development Policy. Before discussion of the specific policy for action tonight, Mr. Bohlander explained the committee's procedure for this review. Each of the trustees' comments are reproduced and shared with each member of the Policy Committee. Each comment is reviewed in advance of the meeting in preparation for discussion at the meeting of the Policy Committee.

After this discussion, a motion was made by James Bohlander, seconded by Margaret Cohen **TO APPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT POLICY**. Mr. Myers asked for additional discussion. Mr. MacInnes noted these “friendly corrections to insert.” Ms. Cohen agreed with the amendments. Motion carried.

#### **DISCUSSION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Myers questioned the minutes reporting action on the Policy Review. The minutes should note that Mr. Myers abstained in the action on the motion regarding the Fixed Asset Management Policy. The minutes are corrected as noted.

The Museum Adventure Pass program was further discussed. Some of the passes will offer four free admissions; some will offer two. These will be available near the Circulation desk. The Board was pleased that the program has been offered to our residents, in addition to the Cranbrook pass.

Discussion of the Rules of Conduct was held, including questioning how the library staff stays on top of every federal law, whether drug and alcohol related, or otherwise. Karen Kotulis-Carter relies, in part, on the library’s labor attorneys. Staff working with Ms. Kotulis-Carter concluded that it will focus on behavior. If someone’s behavior is irresponsible it will be addressed by the staff. Across public libraries in the area and across the country, this is a growing trend and we are able to watch and see how these concerns are addressed.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Rodman Myers, seconded by Robert Spencer **TO APPROVE THE REMOVED ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND ACCEPT THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED**. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rodman Myers, seconded by James Bohlander **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is November 20, 2007. If needed, John MacInnes will attend electronically. All other trustees plan to attend.

Submitted by:

Isabelle Charnov, Secretary