

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
December 12, 2008
10:00 a.m.**

Call to Order

Elaine Logan, Chair, called the meeting of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees to order at 10:05 a.m., on Friday, December 12, 2008, at the Library of Michigan.

Attendance

Members Present: Representative Fran Amos, Elaine Logan, Charles Myers, Gail Parsons, Nancy Robertson, Nancy Skowronski, Michael Smith

Members Absent: Bill Anderson, B. Denise Bartlett, Barbara Bonge (alternate for Chief Justice Clifford Taylor), Senator Irma Clark-Coleman, Senator Tom George, Francis "Bus" Spaniola, Representative Aldo Vagnozzi

Staff Present: Elaine Harrison, Sheryl Mase, Judith Moore, Gloriane Peck, Lori Poznanski-Mason (recording secretary)

Visitors: Roger Ashley, Randy Dykhuis, Jim Seidl

Agenda

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. THE MOTION WAS MOVED BY NANCY SKOWRONSKI AND SUPPORTED BY MIKE SMITH. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Minutes of
September 26, 2008
Meeting**

CHUCK MYERS MOVED APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2008 BOARD MINUTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REPRESENTATIVE FRAN AMOS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board Reports

Board Chair's

Elaine Logan presented resolutions to honor the various contributions of Representative Fran Amos, Linda Farynk, Cliff Haka, and Representative Aldo Vagnozzi.

**Board Members'
Reports**

Elaine Logan spoke about a Friends of the Library event featuring Peter Leonard and his inaugural novel. Peter is an Eastern alumni and the son of Elmore Leonard. Elaine said that Eastern is following the Michigan Notable Books model by hosting author events featuring Eastern alumni and authors.

Mike Smith reported that the Wayne State University (WSU) Press Board was pleased to see books published by WSU Press on the Michigan Notable Books list. Mike is a member of that board.

Mike also said the Wayne State Library and Information Science Program has been upgraded to a School of Library and Information Science. Wayne State is also planning an urban librarianship program, which they believe will be the first one in the country.

Mike also reported that, thanks to the 2004 digitization grant from LM which enabled WSU staff to gain expertise in digitization, another project will soon be launched on the Walter Reuther Library website.

Chuck reported that their 18-branch library has had a floating circulation policy that started about one year ago and that they are willing to be a resource for others.

Chuck also reported that about half of the staff would be eligible for retirement in the next five years. The large number of librarians in the state eligible or becoming eligible to retire was discussed, as well as the rate of turnover of new staff. Nancy R. reported there will be a push within the State of Michigan this year for knowledge transfer and retention. Training Library staff as back-ups may be difficult as staff are already stretched thin.

Chuck reported Grand Rapids Public Library no longer shares a catalog or material with the Lakeland libraries, as they have done in the past. However, their material is available through MeLCat.

Gail was pleased to report that Traverse Area District Library is very busy.

Elaine reported that Eastern's budget was based on a normal year of attrition from the library but, because of the economy, no employees left the library in the first semester.

Nancy Skowronski commented that there was an exhibit celebrating the release of the book *Sirens of Chrome* at the Detroit Public Library (DPL). The book is also on the 2009 Michigan Notable Books list. Pictures in the book have been taken from DPL's National Automotive History Collection.

Legislator Updates

Representative Amos says she is not sure of her future plans, but plans to stay active and is willing to help libraries in any way. Representative Amos commented that she believes Gail Haines will be her replacement on the appropriations committee.

Partnership Reports

Cooperatives

Jim Seidl, President of the Library Cooperative Director's Association presented the Cooperatives report.

MLA

Gail Parsons presented the MLA report, which was distributed at the meeting.

MLC

Randy Dykhuis presented the MLC report.

MAME

The Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME) report was distributed at the meeting and presented by Roger Ashley

State Librarian's Report

Governor Granholm is planning to visit HAL. Each HAL agency will be given the chance to give a five-minute presentation highlighting what is innovative and enterprising about their agency. Gloriane Peck and Sonya Norris planned and will give the LM presentation. Sheryl Mase (substituting for Sonya) and Gloriane gave a preview of the presentation to the Board. Elaine Logan suggested inserting a MeL screen shot into the presentation. It is not known when the Governor will be able to visit.

Nancy reported that the mid-year Executive Order did not cut state aid, but did reduce the Library operations budget by approximately \$203,000. The Library will look to meet the savings requirement by closely monitoring collections and other expenditures through the year.

The Library plans to post and fill the Youth Services Consultant position. The Library is also able to extend the current contract with Jolee Hamlin until the position is filled.

Nancy is working with Elaine Harrison and Sue Chinault to determine staffing needs for Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Nancy is planning to post the State Librarian administrative assistant position, without filling behind the vacancy that ensues. Civil Service is reviewing the position description.

Sheryl Mase is working closely with ALA and Gates on planning a telecommunications summit to be held on May 20, 2009. The summit will help de-mystify and resolve connectivity issues and identify connectivity needs.

Nancy reported on the successful Anatomy of a Murder events held here and at the Hall of Justice.

Michigan Reads! 2008 was a great success. Planning for Michigan Reads! 2009 is underway. Target has again agreed to be a sponsor.

The Michigan Notable Books chosen for 2009 were displayed at the meeting. Nancy invited the group to look at the books after the meeting. A copy of the press release was available at the meeting. The date for the Notables event will be set after the holidays once the Governor's residence has been contacted. Randy Riley is getting the word out to libraries about the opportunity to host a Michigan Notable Book author.

There was a great turnout for the presentation of the State Librarian's Excellence Award, which is based on excellent customer service. Hantz Group sponsored the Excellence Award, which involved a trophy and a gift of \$5,000; EBSCO sponsored both Citations of Excellence awards where each recipient received a trophy and a gift of \$1,000. Marshall District Library was awarded the Excellence Award and Alpena County Library and Dickinson County Library each received a Citation of Excellence award.

A goal for 2009 is to send nomination forms out before the end of the K-12 school year in order to encourage more nominations of K-12 school libraries. Nancy encouraged the Board to encourage their libraries to submit nominations.

The proposed final revisions of the State Aid Rules to Public Libraries have been submitted to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (SOAHR). Nancy R. described the process for approval of the rules. If approved, the rules will become effective October 2009.

National Library Legislative Day will be May 11-12, 2009. Nancy R. has a prior commitment, so Sheryl will be attending in her place. Mike Smith will also be attending. Nancy encouraged other Board members to attend and asked them to contact the coordinator, Elaine Harrison, at 517-373-1395 if they are interested.

A clip from an NBC News broadcast from December 11, 2008 about the value of libraries during tough economic times and how libraries need funding was viewed at the meeting.

An audio podcast of an interview with Deb Biggs Thomas about MeL by Matt Roush from WWJ radio was played at the meeting.

LM Foundation Report

Judith presented an update on the Museum Adventure Pass (MAP) program. Over 100,000 people participated in the MAP program during its first year. Six counties participated. A report by county was distributed at the meeting. Macy's has agreed to renew their sponsorship through October 2011, but it will be at a lesser amount because funding will be through the Macy's Shop for a Cause program. Because of the decrease in funding and because the program is already well known, the amount of printing will be reduced and the focus will be on directing people to a website for information. Seven counties will be participating in 2009.

The program can be easily replicated. Judith told Chuck to contact her if he would like her to give a presentation about replicating the MAP program.

The Foundation is working on obtaining sponsorships for the Michigan Notable Books program. Because of the economy, some sponsors have dropped out. Steelcase Foundation in Grand Rapids has come on board as a new sponsor. Travel Michigan has also agreed to partner to help promote this program.

The Foundation is holding its annual holiday campaign. Contribution cards were available at the meeting. The Foundation is also promoting a Legacy Society.

Old Business

No old business was brought before the Board.

New Business

Nomination and Election of Officers

Nancy Skowronski, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, recommended Mike Smith for Chair and Gail Parsons for Vice-Chair. No other nominations were presented. Representative Amos moved to close the nomination and to unanimously accept the recommendations. All were in favor.

Board Discussion Items

Future Topics of Discussion

The Board came up with the following list of possible discussion topics for future Board meetings:

- Organizational structure of the LM Foundation and its funds.
- LM funding priority suggestions for presentation to the LM Foundation.
- How to build friendship, awareness, and improve legislative relationships; How can the Board help?
- Ways to become more actively involved in National Library Legislative Day.
- New Board member packet/orientation about LM and its programs. Suggestions were made to include a list of acronyms and information about LM's budget structure and how it fits within HAL and the state.
- Review of partnerships and how we depend on each other; Finding sources beyond traditional revenue sources.

2009 Meeting Dates

The Library of Michigan Board will meet on the following dates in 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Library of Michigan. Room location will be determined:

Friday, February 27
Friday, April 24
Friday, September 25
Friday, December 4

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is Friday, February 27, at 10:00 a.m. at the Library of Michigan.

Adjournment

CHUCK MYERS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MIKE SMITH SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:05 P.M.

Elaine Logan, Chair

Nancy R. Robertson, State Librarian