

**Flint Public Library
Finance and Budget Committee
March 23, 2016
Room 205, 5:30 PM**

Members present: Jim Richardson, Mort Krasner, Kathy Jackson,
Matt Schlinker, Linda Gulley
Staff present: Kathryn Schwartz, Connie Palmer, Ilene Harris

Mr. Richardson called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

The agenda was approved as presented.

A call was made to the public, no public in attendance wished to speak.

Mr. Richardson introduced Ms. Kathy Jackson as the new member of the Finance Committee. Ms. Jackson and the committee members spent a few minutes introducing themselves and their backgrounds.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the January 27, 2016 meeting. It was noted that the February 24, 2016 meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. A motion was made by Mr. Krasner and seconded by Ms. Jackson to accept and file the January 27, 2016 minutes. Mr. Richardson called the question, all present voting aye. Motion carried.

New Business

Monthly Financial Statements and Investment schedule for the period ending February 29, 2016. Mr. Richardson asked Mrs. Palmer to review the financial statements for the period ending February 29, 2016. Mrs. Palmer reviewed the financial statements and the investment schedule with the committee. The committee reviewed the cash and cash investments, the property tax revenues and the flow of collections, the development activity to date and the status of the budget to actual for each activity center and grants.

Discussion ensued as the committee reviewed the statements. Administration has been in contact with the City of Flint Assessor to determine how the city is forecasting the effect of the water crisis on property values and future property tax revenues.

Mr. Schlinker moved and Mr. Krasner seconded forwarding with the committee's recommendation for approval, the financial statements and the investment report for the period ending February 29, 2016 to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Richardson called the question, all present voting aye.

Old Business

None

Director's Report

Director Schwartz reported on the following items:

- Director Schwartz attended the Computers in Libraries conference with four staff members March 7 through March 10. The attendance at this conference and all costs associated were part of the grant from the Ruth Mott Foundation as we design the digital literacy initiative and programming for the library. Director Schwartz said the conference was very enlightening in learning what other libraries had done and what worked and what did not work. Director Schwartz provided an example from the New York Public Library system: a ten week coding class was developed and offered to patrons. The initial class had 300 people interested; since that time they have a wait list of over 5000 people for the class. Other programs provided a wealth of information for the team to use as the digital literacy programming is developed.

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- Director Schwartz was pleased to announce that Story Corps had agreed to contract for six additional months of programming at FPL. The next session will occur from April through September 2016 and will be entitled, "Flint Voices Matter". The stories will be from residents who can talk about how the current water crisis has affected their daily living and their long term hopes for Flint.
- A Request for Services had been issued and replies received for Fundraising Consulting Services. A subcommittee of the Board of Trustees was convened for this process. The purpose of the request is to receive help in preparing the annual campaign for a potential capital campaign in the next 24 months.
- Ms. Gulley asked Director Schwartz about the status of the design for the new loan service desk in the lobby. Director Schwartz stated that the architect had asked for estimates for the project. It was determined the estimates were greater than the amount available in the budget for the project. The library will move forward with replacing the wall paper behind the loan desk but will not replace the loan desk at this time.

Board Report

Mr. Richardson reported the board had heard the information from Director Schwartz's report at its last meeting. The Board also began the budget process with a closed session on contract negotiations.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Richardson adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Palmer