

MINUTES

OAKLAND COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

May 27, 2009

The regular meeting of the Oakland County Library Board was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Steven Andrews, John Chambers, Robert Gaylor, Donald Jensen, Jeff Potter

Board Members Excused: Dr. Vickie Markavitch, Robert Tera

Guests: Karen Agacinski, Senior Assistant, Corporation Counsel; Larry Doyle, Board of Commissioners; Nancy Scarlet, Director, Human Resources

Also in Attendance: Laura Mancini, Director-Library Services; Sherry Hakim, Library Administrative Assistant

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 20 and 22, 2009

Resolution #09-22: Gaylor moved to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2009 meeting. Chambers seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution #09-23: Jensen moved to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2009 meeting. Gaylor seconded. Motion carried.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Cooley Law School Proposal

The Board discussed the Cooley Law School proposal.

Judge Andrews, Judge Potts, Judy Cunningham and Larry Doyle met to discuss the contract. Corporation Counsel will ask that the Adams-Pratt name be retained and that there is a revert back to clause in the contract.

The County will attempt to place two Law Library positions with Cooley.

Two of the computers purchased by the Bar Foundation will go to Cooley.

Board members expressed their concern over the Cooley proposal and Robert Gaylor read the following statement:

“I know that the Library Board hasn’t been asked to vote on this matter of giving the Adams Pratt Law Library to the Cooley Law School but I want it on the record that as a Board member representing the

public that I personally am opposed to this proposal.

Many hours and dollars have been raised by numerous individuals and groups on behalf of the Adams Pratt Law Library. I find it difficult to understand how millions of dollars of public money raised for this library can be given away.

In my opinion, the Adams Pratt Law Library has been considered one of the finest law libraries in the State and I feel sorry for Oakland County citizens that one of the jewels of the County has been given away.”

Robert Gaylor asked that his statement be included in the minutes of today’s meeting.

Judge Andrews and John Chambers agreed with Robert Gaylor’s statement.

Judge Andrews stated that the County will do what they want even if the Board did not approve the contract.

Don Jensen asked if there was a kick back by a concerned citizen that the County was giving away tax payer property, would the Library Board be responsible? Judge Andrews said it would be the Board of Commissioners who will be responsible since they will be the governing body to approve the contract.

John Chambers felt it was unfortunate and was dismayed by the BOC resolution to turn the library over to Cooley. He felt that giving away tax payer dollars could be a legal issue down the road.

Judge Andrews met with the Dean of Cooley Law School and he assured Judge Andrews that he understood the Board’s feelings and that he would do everything in his power to make this a smooth transition and that Cooley wanted to make this work for the public because it was to their benefit.

Judge Andrews wrote to the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court, the Probate Court and two section chiefs of the criminal civil division and the family law division asking them what they would like to see retained at the library.

There will be a computer at the request of the Bar, in the Lawyers Lounge on the first floor, for lawyers to do quick research when they’re in trial. Lawyers will still also use the Law Library.

Judge Andrews stated the library will continue its contracts and services with the paralegal schools.

Nancy Scarlet stated that the County will have to determine what remains here at the library and what the staffing needs will be.

Nancy said there are limited bumping rights in the library because it falls under the Board of Commissioners and there are few places for employees to go but she would do her best to find placement somewhere else in the County for any displaced employees.

Laura’s concern is that the staff the library retains has the proper skills we need to continue the reduced functions of the library. After Laura meets with the Board of Commissioners and Human Resources, and comes up with a plan, she will bring it to the Board for their consideration.

Judge Andrews discussed consolidating the library into one unit with one budget. He also stated that the Library would continue to be a Federal and a Michigan Government Depository. The library will still serve small law firms, the jail, the Circuit Court, the Prosecutors Office and other county

departments.

Andrews proposed to the Board that they pass a resolution to consolidate the libraries into one facility.

Resolution #09-24: Gaylor moved that the three library units should consolidate into one facility and that Laura Mancini present a plan to the Library Board detailing how this will be executed. Chambers seconded. Motion carried.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A. April 2009

Resolution #09-25: Gaylor moved to approve the April 2009 financial statements. Chambers seconded. Motion carried.

8. **REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

A. Oakland Literacy Council

Written report noted and filed.

Resolution #09-26: Chambers moved to receive and accept Moraniec's report. Gaylor seconded. Motion carried.

B. Library Services-Mancini

Written report noted and filed.

- The library millage request for the city of Bloomfield Hills was defeated, so the Oakland County Library will continue to be their public library of record.
- The adult services reference staff from the White lake Public Library, toured the three library units on May 5th.
- The Public Library Trustee Association of Oakland County will hold its annual dinner on June 24th at La Sala in Rochester Hills.
- Governor Granholm reduced state funding for libraries by 4%.
- The new paralegal collection has arrived and has been made available to patrons
- The Law Library conducted three tours for Baker College Paralegal students.
- The LVPI has received over \$2,000.00 in donations in memory of Margaret Walters, a patron of the library.
- The patron book club met on April 18th
- The spring issue of *The Magnifier*, the LVPI's newsletter, has been released.
- The LVPI received a demo version of the new digital book player along with a digital book.
- The Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society donated 16 bound issues of *The Pontiac Press* from 1927-1939 to the Research Library.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Oakland County Library Usage Statistics Report-April 2009
- Dinner Invitation for the Public Library Trustee Association of Oakland County (PLTAOC)

- annual spring dinner, June 24, 2009
- Dues Notice for the Public Library Trustee Association of Oakland County (PLTAOC), May 2009
 - *The Magnifier*, newsletter of the Oakland County Library for the Visually and Physically Impaired, Spring 2009
 - Article in *The Detroit Legal News* on the possible merger of the Oakland County Adams-Pratt Law Library with Cooley Law School, April 21, 2009
 - Article in *The Oakland Press* on the possible merger of the Oakland County Adams-Pratt Law Library with Cooley Law School, April 30, 2009
 - Article in *The Detroit Free Press*, on the proposal to turn over the Adams-Pratt Law Library to the Thomas M. Cooley School of Law in Auburn Hills, April 26, 2009
 - Article in *Oakland County Legal News* on the University of Detroit Mercy Mobile Law Office Law Clinic program which is held at the Oakland County Law Library, every other Wednesday, April 17, 2009
 - Article in *The Oakland Press* on the rejected library millage in Bloomfield Hills, May 6, 2009
 - Article in *The Oakland Press* on the increase in library usage during rough economic times, May 3, 2009
 - Email from Tim Soave, Manager, Fiscal Services, to Nancy Falardeau, Financial Analyst III; Gary Vaught, Human Resources and Laura Mancini, Library Director, on the Law Library's budget for FY2010-FY2012, May 27, 2009
 - Letter from Robert Gaylor, Library Board member, on his opposition to the transfer of the Oakland County Law Library to Cooley Law School, May 27, 2009

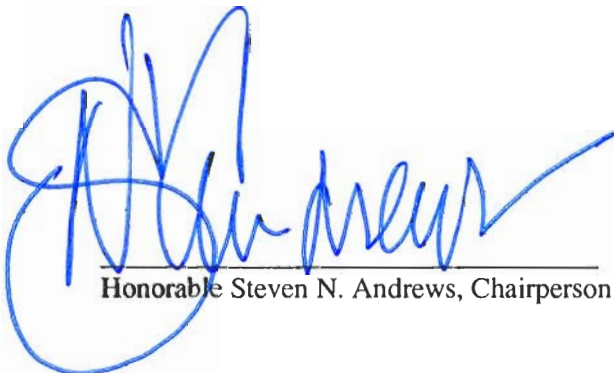
10. CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the Library Board will be on **June 24, 2009** at 3:00 p.m. in the Library Board Room/Second Floor/West Wing Extension.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #09-27: Chambers moved to adjourn the May 27, 2009 meeting. Gaylor seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.



Honorable Steven N. Andrews, Chairperson



Robert Gaylor, Secretary