

**Monroe County Library System
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Rundel Memorial Building Board Room
Minutes
March 19, 2018**

Trustees Present: Brandt, Guttmacher, Lovenheim, Shelly, Stockman, Thompson, Wolf, Yust

Trustees Excused: D'Aurizio, Knapp

Staff and Guests: Staff members Brinkman, Harrison, Uttaro

Public Comments

There were no members of the public present who wished to address the board at this time.

Call to Order

Mr. Wolf called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m., and welcomed trustees and guests.

Action Items

Meeting Minutes

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Lovenheim AND SECONDED BY Dr. Guttmacher to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2018 meeting (Documents Book). THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Claims

Ms. Harrison called attention to the financial Claims dated March 9 and March 12 included with the packet, reviewing highlights and responding to questions (Documents Book). A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Wolf AND SECONDED BY Ms. Shelly to approve the Claims as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Report Items

MCLS Liaison to RPL Board

Mr. Wolf briefly summarized the joint meeting of the MCLS and RPL Boards of Trustees in February, which included approvals of the 2018-19 budget for Central Library and RPL Community Libraries, as well as a presentation from LaBella Associates and Bayer Landscape Architecture on the developing plans for the Rundel North Terrace renovation project.

Rochester Regional Library Council

Ms. Uttaro reported on behalf of Dr. Knapp, noting that voting is now open for the RRLC Library of the Year, with voting to continue through the spring. The awards will be announced as part of the RRLC's annual meeting in June.

Friends and Foundation of Rochester Public Library

Ms. Uttaro reported on behalf of Mr. Davis, as FFRPL was wrapping up its annual book sale with Goodwill donations, which was held in Kate Gleason Auditorium from Thursday through Saturday. She explained that Saturday had been *Pay What You Can* day, helping individuals, Central's Outreach Division, as well as other area nonprofits, schools and community organizations to obtain free materials. Preliminary sales figures total approximately \$6,500, similar to prior years' proceeds. Ms. Uttaro further reported that the annual campaign is in its final months, with approximately \$182,500 collected to date. She shared FFRPL spring program highlights from the *Books Sandwiched-In* series, and noted that on Wednesday, March 28th at noon, FFRPL and Writers & Books will host Central Library's *Rochester*

Reads event. Author Reyna Grande will do a reading and book signing in Kate Gleason Auditorium for this year's selection, *The Distance Between Us*.

Director's Report

Ms. Stockman expressed gratitude for the recent lighting of the Central Library's Rundel Memorial Building in honor of Stephanie Squicciarini, who, as noted in the Director's Report, had a significant impact on the MCLS and its staff, many of whom are still processing her recent passing. Ms. Uttaro noted that the Henrietta Public Library will have its groundbreaking ceremony on March 20th. She provided updates on the New York State Assembly and Senate proposals for state library aid and construction aid. While both budget bills are still in progress, the potential increase in library construction grant funding would have a positive impact on future construction projects that may not be possible without additional funding support. Ms. Uttaro noted that the recent passing of Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, a ranking member of the House Rules Committee, would not have direct impact on state funding for libraries. The proposed library state aid is good news for libraries if it is incorporated in the final budget sent to, and approved by, Governor Cuomo in the coming weeks.

Ms. Uttaro noted that the MCLS will be retaining a consultant to provide analysis of MCLS system services, consulting services, and operational governing structure. Ms. Uttaro is in the process of soliciting proposals from two library directors of other public library systems who have experience in New York State systems and system structure. Dr. Gutmacher and Mr. Lovenheim inquired as to the purpose and desired outcomes of the consultant's work; Ms. Uttaro noted it would focus on items addressed by system member directors, which include how the system funds system activities; the work of the MCLS Office; the work of liaisons; and current governing/operating committee structure. Mr. Wolf inquired as to the impetus for the timing of the consultant work; Ms. Uttaro shared that it was a developing outcome of the annual January MCLS Directors' Retreat, which sets annual service plans and desired outcomes for the MCLS.

Town Libraries

Ms. Brinkman reported highlights from town libraries, including the impact of Seymour library's increased charitable donations, likely resulting from the donation of the Clarkson Supervisor's wages to the library. Ms. Brinkman addressed a question on seed libraries based on Scottsville's plans to offer one this year, noting that patrons who use the library are expected to return seeds produced in the following planting cycle. She added that seed libraries have been successful in other member library locations, including Rush.

Ms. Brinkman and Ms. Uttaro addressed an inquiry from Ms. Shelley on Gates Library's preschool program, noted as a partnership with YMCA, who stepped in as a program partner after the Gates Public Library and Town of Gates were not able to reach final agreement for services and occupancy with the Gates Chili Central School District. There was an inquiry regarding the current NYS Comptroller's Office audit of Webster Public Library, concerning whether the audit is cyclical or randomized; both Ms. Uttaro and several trustees noted that the process for selection of public libraries and areas of evaluation are not known, and rationale is not provided at the state level.

Mr. Brandt noted that the circulation statistics reflect a substantial increase for the Scottsville Public Library. Circulation trends were discussed by the Board, with noted trends from Rochester Public Library site supervisors, including patrons sharing the preference shift of streaming video services from DVD rentals.

MCLS Services & Central Library Reports

Ms. Uttaro reported on behalf of Ms. Snow, noting she will be conducting a Trustee training session on March 20, 2018. There were no questions on the MCLS and Central Library reports as submitted. Ms.

Harrison provided a presentation on E-rate plans for the MCLS in 2018-19, which include the voluntary participation of member libraries to update network cabling within their respective buildings. She explained that by coordinating an MCLS-wide bid for services under the E-rate program, network cables past their useful life will be replaced at up to 85% federal funding reimbursement under E-rate Category 2 eligibility. She added that this will also provide cable standard specifications that can be used by all member libraries, if desired. Ms. Harrison noted that the MCLS will offer this option to member libraries for the next several E-rate cycles, as federal funds remain available.

Adjournment

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Lovenheim AND SECONDED BY Mr. Yust to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brie Harrison for Patricia Uttaro, Secretary