

THE FERGUSON LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 27, 2004

Present:

Board Members: P. Broom, Chair; E. Abate; G. Caggainello;
T. Cassone; K. Emmett; H. Romanowitz; D. Williams

Citizen Advisers: G. Harvey; G. Giusti; C. Guinta; T. Payne

Guest: D. Russell

Staff: E. DiMattia; N. Bochicchio; A. Knapp; G. Nichols

Ms. Broom called the meeting to order.

Minutes

The minutes of the December 16, 2003 meeting and the minutes of the February 24, 2004 were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. DiMattia, reporting for Mr. Warrick, indicated that the financial reports for the first nine months of the fiscal year show revenues exceeding budget by \$33,524 and expenses exceeding budget by \$30,608. Mr. Bochicchio then presented a forecast for the end of the fiscal year which demonstrated that total revenues and total expenses should be on target.

President's Report

Mr. DiMattia introduced Ms. Knapp who reported on the award the Connecticut Library Association presented to the Ferguson Library for its website design. She also noted that the Library received word that it is being given a \$17,000 grant to expand its Special Needs Center. From his February report, Mr. DiMattia commented on the Circulation Services function, upcoming revisions to statistical reports, and increased passport activity. He highlighted the Interlibrary Loan program, Poets Voice and book discussion groups from his March report, as well as reviewing statistics as of March 31, 2004.

Executive Committee

Ms. Broom indicated that the Executive Committee met on April 27, 2004, and all matters discussed at that meeting are on the agenda for the Board Meeting.

Personnel Committee

Ms. Emmett reported that the Personnel Committee is continuing its review of the proposed staff manual, and expects to present it to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting. She added that the Committee also reviewed several methods of reducing future unemployment compensation costs. Mr. Nichols indicated that the contract with the employee bargaining unit was amended to change the parking reimbursement and compensatory time provisions.

Friends of Ferguson

Mr. DiMattia informed the Board that the Book & Author Luncheon this year is expected to draw an audience of over 350. Sales experienced by the two Friends Bookstores could reach \$100,000 at year-end.

2004-2005 Operating Budget

Mr. DiMattia noted that reductions totaling \$96,000 have already been made by the Mayor and Board of Finance to the proposed operating budget for 2004-2005. The Board of Representatives has yet to vote on the budget.

2004-2005 Capital Budget

Mr. DiMattia reported that the requested budget for the Weed Branch Renovation/Expansion (\$325,000) has not been adjusted by either the Mayor or the Board of Finance. However, the Main Library Renovation request was reduced from \$2,324,000 to \$2,000,000 by the combined actions of the Mayor and the Board of Finance.

New Business

The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

“RESOLVED that Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr., the President of The Ferguson Library, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this organization a certain contract with the Connecticut State Library, State of Connecticut, for a State Public Library Construction Grant.”

The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

“RESOLVED that Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr, President of The Ferguson Library, is hereby authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of this organization, any and all contracts and amendments thereto, and to execute and approve on behalf of this organization, other instruments, a part of or incident to such contracts and amendments, with respect to the Renovations of the Weed Branch Library, effective until otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors”.

Ms. Broom introduced Don Russell who reported on his progress in writing a book on The Ferguson Library history.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Kathryn Emmett, Esq.
Secretary