

MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

A meeting of the Muskegon Area District Library Board was held on Monday, August 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Muskegon Area District Library – Montague Branch, 8778 Ferry Street, Montague, MI 49437. Staff present: J. Endres, B. Hall, N. Schaner, R. Suszek, and K. Wisniewski. Also present, M. Anderson, Legal Counsel. Members of the public in attendance: Taleah Greve, Kelly Markley, and Margot Haynes of the Montague Branch Friends Group.

D. Hughes called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Richards, Hughes, Scolnik, Root, Aerts

Excused: Cruz, Hodges, Vanaelst

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Scolnik, Second by Richards

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Board Development

Montague Branch Remodel & Current Events Presentation – C. Le Vey-Rowland presented before and after photos of the remodel, Storyville, and maker space. She explained that the branch has created a new teen space by moving stacks around and relocating the children's area. There is now a direct line of sight to those areas from the circulation desk. She passed around 3D-printed objects to showcase the printer that's available for use in the maker space. One of the branch's next goals is outreach with community area schools. R. Suszek thanked the friends group for their support of the maker space.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Aerts, Second by Root

That the MADL Board approves the Consent Agenda Items 5.a. through 5.c.

Motion Carried

Vouchers

Motion by Aerts, Second by Richards

That the MADL Board approves the vouchers for July 2023.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aerts, Hughes, Root, Richards, Scolnik

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Minutes from August 8, 2023, were reviewed by the Board, which included the Revised 2023/Proposed 2024 Budget, Budget Narrative, L-4029 and Budget Resolution.

Marketing/Re-Branding/Millage Campaign Committee Meeting – Minutes from August 16, 2023, were reviewed by the Board, emphasizing that a new brand name would allow us to tell our new story, helping us to get noticed, understood, and remembered. The committee agreed that the concept is exciting and a positive forward move.

Reports/Questions

R. Suszek announced that MADL received Goodwill's Employer Recognition Award for supporting job placements for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. MADL had the pleasure of employing a seasonal

person for shelf reading this summer. She did a wonderful job and the staff enjoyed working with her. B. Scolnik mentioned the annual luncheon at Trillium is nice as you get to listen to the stories of people affected by these partnerships. R. Suszek responded that there is now a presentation at Hackley Park in lieu of the luncheon and MADL was able to participate in that. R. Suszek reported that the State of Michigan has officially awarded MADL the \$25,000 laptop kiosk grant. MADL will move forward with the project and work with the City of Montague to install the kiosk. He stated that MADL has responded to the Civil Rights complaint regarding the handicap accessible door at the North Muskegon Branch; MADL is working with the City of North Muskegon on a solution. MADL couldn't apply for the LEO Community Center Grant due to the tight deadline. However, the process has allowed conversations to continue about the possibility of MADL seeking ownership of the Norton Shores Branch Library building, should another grant opportunity be available in the future.

J. Endres presented the fall newsletter.

Old Business

Strategic Plan – No updates other than the results of the name change study.

Study, Rebranding, and New Logo/Proposal for Name Change Study – The Board reviewed the analysis data from the name change study which included the possibility of an organizational name change. R. Suszek requested that the Board think about the name change options over the next month for possible discussion at the September board meeting. D. Hughes mentioned that the results from the survey were credible results and very telling of the community support for the library.

New Business

MADL 2023 Revised/2024 Proposed Budget and Budget Narrative – The Board should review the budget and direct any questions to the Finance Director before the budget hearing in September, at which point, the budget will be adopted.

Form L-4029 and Budget Resolution – These required documents for MADL to receive its millage revenue were presented for review. After the budget is adopted next month, both of these items will need to be approved by the board.

Public Comment

M. Haynes voiced her concern with the newly formatted newsletter; it's busy, hard to read, and difficult to find branch-specific information. J. Endres thanked her for the feedback.

T. Greve explained that her family frequently spends time in the library, noting that the seating is very hard and uncomfortable.

K. Markley reiterated the need for updated seating as well as a new circulation desk. She thought it was awesome that MADL included the friends' groups in the rebranding process. She too, noted that it's difficult to find branch-specific information in the newsletter, but she does appreciate the branch-specific emails. She explained that it's the friend's intention to roll over the ordering of maker space consumables to MADL and hopes that ordering will continue with a quick turnaround.

Board Comment

A. Root questioned why MADL doesn't offer credit card payments for services in the library? K. Wisniewski explained that MADL previously tried to roll out a point-of-sale system but had to discontinue the service as the cost of the service kept rising and patron payments decreased due to the elimination of overdue fines. It wasn't a cost-effective solution as there was a 3-6% service charge per transaction. B. Hall stated that we can't justify spending more money to take in less money. Patrons can make credit card payments for lost materials using their online account.

Adjournment

D. Hughes adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

Reviewed and approved by Linda Aerts, Region 5 Trustee.