

MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

A meeting of the Muskegon Area District Library Board was held on Monday, September 18, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Muskegon Area District Library - Muskegon Heights Branch, 2808 Sanford Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444. Staff present: L. Abramson, J. Endres, B. Hall, S. Rinsema-Sybenga, N. Schaner, R. Suszek, and K. Wisniewski. Also present, M. Anderson, Legal Counsel.

D. Hughes called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Cruz, Vanaelst, Aerts, Hodges, Hughes, Root, Scolnik

Excused: Richards

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Hodges, Second by Vanaelst

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Board Development

Muskegon Heights Branch Remodel & Current Events Presentation – I. Wright explained that there are currently 50 bikes checked out through the MABL (bike lending) program in which patrons can check out bikes with their library card and a \$5 deposit. Included in the check-out are helmets and bike locks. L. Aerts commended staff for their hard work establishing the program. I. Wright stated that the Georgia Moss summer program was well received with 173 kids in attendance over the course of 3 weeks. The Summer Reading Program also had good participation; of the 64 registered, 18 completed the reading requirement with 478 books read. He also reported that their fall storytime has returned on Mondays at 1:00 p.m., the branch raised \$70 during their annual book sale, and the StoryTrail at Bethlehem Park will be switched to the NEA Big Read Lakeshore's Little Read book, Change Sings by Amanda Gorman.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Scolnik, Second by Cruz

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

Motion Carried

Vouchers

Motion by Aerts, Second by Root

That the MADL Board approves the vouchers for August 2023.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aerts, Scolnik, Hodges, Hughes, Vanaelst, Cruz, Root

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Committee Reports

None.

Reports/Questions

R. Suszek announced that the Laketon Township Branch has expanded hours on Mondays and Tuesdays. The pilot program has been marketed to the Reeths-Puffer School District and area residents. He provided the Resolution Agreement from the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights regarding the handicap accessible door at the North Muskegon Branch. The agreement details the June 14, 2024, deadline for repairs. If the repair isn't completed by the City of North Muskegon, MADL will be forced to shut down the branch or relocate services.

D. Hughes offered his support and is willing to meet with City of North Muskegon officials regarding the situation. He also recognized MADL for receiving the Sub-regional Library/Advisory and Outreach Center of the Year Award through the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The Library Director and Branch Librarian were able to travel to the Library of Congress to accept the award.

Old Business

Strategic Plan – No updates other than the recommended name change.

Study, Rebranding, and New Logo/Proposal for Name Change Study – The Board reviewed the analysis data from the name change study including the recommendation of an organizational name change. After discussion, it was concluded that it wasn't the right time for a name change. It was suggested that the proposed name be included as a secondary name in the new to the logo as a soft introduction to the idea.

Budget Hearing/Certification of Millage

Motion by Aerts, Second by Scolnik

That the MADL Board open the budget hearing at 4:28 p.m.

Motion Carried

Motion by Aerts, Second by Scolnik

That the MADL Board close the budget hearing at 4:29 p.m.

Motion Carried

Motion by Hodges, Second by Cruz

That the Muskegon Area District Library Board authorizes the Chair and Secretary to execute the following documents: Resolution to Levy a District-Wide Tax and Form L-4029 2023 Tax Rate Request and that the original documents be filed with the Muskegon County Clerk and copies sent to the Muskegon County Equalization Department and each township and city clerk.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Vanaelst, Scolnik, Cruz, Hodges, Aerts, Root, Hughes

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Revised 2023/Proposed 2024 Budget –

Motion by Scolnik, Second by Vanaelst

That the MADL Board adopt the Revised 2023/Proposed 2024 Budget as presented.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Hughes, Hodges, Aerts, Root, Cruz, Vanaelst, Scolnik

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

New Business

Proclamation for Friends of the Library Week –

Motion by Hodges, Second by Aerts

That the MADL Board adopt the Proclamation for Friends of the Library Week, October 15 – 21.

Motion Carried

Public Comment

I. Wright agreed that the name change was a cool concept, just not the right time.

Board Comment

L. Aerts announced that R. Suszek will be presenting at the Michigan Township Association meeting on Monday, September 25th at 6:00 p.m.

F. Cruz was grateful for L. Aerts soft campaign idea regarding the name change.

B. Scolnik encouraged the name change as long as it's in the right sequence.

D. Hughes was impressed with the Montague Branch Makerspace which includes many different tools and materials to create crafts at the library. He suggested that this space be created at other branches and could be funded by community donors as was the Montague Branch Makerspace.

L. Aerts likes the concept of a mobile makerspace that could be scheduled to move from branch to branch.

R. Suszek introduced L. Abramson, who was promoted from a part-time library assistant I in the Marketing Department to the full-time cataloging position in the Processing Department.

Adjournment

D. Hughes adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Reviewed and approved by Fawn Cruz, Secretary.