

President's Notes  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
June 16, 2008

Called to Order 2:16 pm. All Trustees present except Robin Wood Kurowski (unexcused). Guests: Dr. Ben Kohl, Nancy Bennington (FOL) and Max Rorhman, Architect.

#### Disposition of Minutes

Corrections as follows: Betty Spence was excused. The Trustee approved raising the printing/copying fees from \$.10 for black/white to \$.25 for color and \$.15 for black/white.

Requested that the Director provide each Trustee with a copy of the re-adopted library by-laws date March 17, 2008.

#### Public Input

Ben Kohl reported as follows:

\* Kent County Historical Society is using DAR method to catalog books in their library. Judith Heinze of Washington College has been helping. Thanks to KCPL's Director for his assistance to the project.

\* Dr. Kohl's advised the Board that his group has had to suspend their plans for a Betterton branch of the library because of a number of unresolved issues. Jerry mentioned that if the Betterton Town Office ever vacates its current location by the Post Office then it may be possible to house a small library twig there.

Friends Report: Nancy Bennington reported as follows:

\* FOL contributed \$21,500 to the KCPL over the last 12 months. Nancy conveyed that FOL will no longer fund other "literary" projects albeit, worthwhile because of its sole commitment to KCPL. She stated that Ruth Scherer is a new volunteer with FOL and she has extensive experience as a librarian and will be a great asset in organizing donated books for future book sales; though FOL is still challenged by the space obstacle for book sales.

\* CMS is no longer a Title I school and thus ineligible to participate in the RIF program because less than 50% of students participate/qualify for reduced- free lunch thus FOL will no longer be involved with that initiative.

\* She gave an update on the progress of the meeting room: bids for doors in progress. Book donations continue to be accepted and are unsorted & boxed for storage in the pod. The meeting room space and the book donations storage continues to be a source of continuous tension between Director KCPL & FOL. FOL has unsorted books; not all the issues involved in the meeting room space have been resolved; KCPL had called a moratorium on accepting donations earlier this year and no formal system of volunteers is set-up yet to sort first then box and then are not prepared or fully mobile to respond; by accepting, storing unsorted books is building a bigger problem for FOL.

#### Librarian's Report

The County Commissioner's approved KCPLs 09 Budget as requested with a 5.4% increase.

KCPL has implemented a Health Savings Account (HSAs) for its employees in FY09. KCPL pays health insurance for each employee and this year's health insurance includes a \$1,000 deductible. This new plan is overall less expensive than what they had last year by about 8.1% or \$10,700.

Director has set a priority of bringing the public schools into its' new catalog system and will work out some sort of arrangement between them to facilitate this project.

Jerry plans to meet with a Bookmobile Vendor and invited any of those Trustees to join him in meeting with them to determine its' viability.

Kent & Talbot counties will be working with Carroll County who will bring them on-line with "Maryland Share" a community information database.

Delegates Annual Report to the Chamber was attended by Director & President of Board. FOL had asked Walkup to initiate a bill to exempt them from paying sales tax on their book sale proceeds; it was not submitted to the floor last year. Nothing much was said about it. Jerry had a silent idea that legislation re: an exemption of the rural counties annual audit requirement would be a worthwhile.

Anita Gottlieb, of Rock Hall may serve as a Strategic Planning Consultant for us in 2009 when it is time for us to complete a 5-year Strategic Plan.

Circulation is up 17%.

Building Renovation Library will have to be moved or closed down. Worst case scenario is 3 months. Reservations for meeting rooms will not be accepted from August thru October 2008.

Awaiting plans from the landscape architect so that both projects may be rolled into one project and one bid.

#### Committee Reports:

The rededication event scheduled for September 12 may need to be postponed because of the timing and/or commencement of the renovation project.

Trustees advised that it would be prudent to identify any other dire maintenance issues (painting & bathroom repair) so that it can be addressed now while renovations are in progress.

Director suggested that Trustees visit other local libraries to see their meeting room space.

The Trustees want the Meeting Room Committee to reconvene and prepare a recommendation according to Jerry's vision for the meeting room and present its recommendation to the Board for final approval. Betty Spence was re-appointed as Chair of the Meeting Room Committee.

President will write a letter requesting FOL to request such and vet that letter to all Trustees before it is sent: snail mail or e-mail.

Next Meeting: Our next pre-scheduled meetings in 2008 are: July 14, September 8, and November 10.

President Taylor recommended that in light of the additional duties assigned to the Meeting Room Committee more time may be needed to for them to: reconvene; prepare recommendation, etc. and be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting. Thus it was suggested that we set-in a Board Meeting for August 4, 2008 at 2:15 pm (maybe even as a Special Meeting if needed) and thus by-pass the need to hold a July 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting unless the Director has action items for the Trustees ready beforehand.