

**Muscogee County Library Board Meeting  
Thursday, March 27, 2008  
Columbus Public Library**

**Minutes**

Members Attending

Helene Watson	Mimi Childs	Lisa Goodwin
Frank Star	Gary Griesheim	Barbara Kamensky
Linda Harper	Kelly Pridgen	Meridith Jarrell
Price Walker, Jr.	Bobsie Swift	

Members Excused

Rick Covington	Jay Alexander	Jimmy Elder
M.A. Dowdell	John Phillips	Patricia Hugley-Green
John Wells		

Others Attending

Gary Wortley, CVRLS Chief Operating Officer  
Lyn Anderson, CVRLS Chief Financial Officer  
Debbie McGreggor, Administrative Assistant to the Director  
Stephen Pharis, Columbus Public Library Reference Department Supervisor

Chair Bobsie Swift called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. She asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the February 28, 2008 meeting. Lisa Goodwin moved to approve the minutes as presented. Helene Watson seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

Chair Swift welcomed Gary Wortley, CVRLS Chief Operating Officer, who was sitting in for Claudya Muller in her absence.

FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES

Gary Griesheim reported the Friends met two weeks ago and had approved the following.

1. A contribution in the amount of \$25,000 to the Mildred L. Terry Library capital campaign. He stated they were able to do this due to an increase in membership.
2. The book store had another good month with \$4,000 in sales.
3. The Friends sponsored breakfast, lunch and snacks for employees during In-Service Day.

Bobsie Swift asked Mr. Griesheim to please convey to the Friends of Libraries the Board's appreciation to the Friends for their support of the libraries.

## BOARD EDUCATION/ORGANIZATION

Gary Wortley introduced Stephen Pharis to give the Board information on the Reference Department. Mr. Pharis is the Columbus Public Library Reference Department Supervisor.

Mr. Pharis informed the Board that the Reference Department is currently working on several major goals over the next few months. The goals currently in the works are:

1. Working with the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley on several projects in educating the community through electronic media, working with individuals wanting to start their own business by assisting them in putting together various documents that may be needed such as a business plan and working to assist individuals with understanding personal investments.
2. Continuing to provide computer classes with an emphasis on senior citizens by introducing them to social networking and MySpace for Seniors.
3. Working on the Library 2.0 concept. He explained this is a concept that the Reference Department and other departments are working together on because of the fast paced change in technology. Part of this program is the Virtual Branch. He stated that where the website offers information to individuals, the Virtual Branch will not only provide information but will be interactive.

Frank Star asked if any of the computer classes are MAC based or are they all Windows based. Mr. Pharis stated that they are all Windows based because there are no Mac computers in the library. He said, however, that the principles learned in the Windows based classes could easily be transferred to the Mac application.

Gary Griesheim stated he was surprised at the low use of e-audio books. He asked if this was something that needed to be marketed to the community. Mr. Pharis stated that this is part of the Library 2.0 concept he had spoken about earlier. He stated an announcement was expected at PLA from a major vendor making it possible to download the books to MP3 players or IPODs.

Gary Wortley informed the Board that Wanda Edwards has moved to Popular Materials and will be taking on the responsibilities of webmaster held by Sarah Boyd. He stated that Ms. Edwards wanted to get back into the public service aspect of the library. He reported that a search is currently underway for a marketing person to replace Ms. Edwards.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Frank Star, Finance Committee Chair, recognized Lyn Anderson, CVRLS Chief Financial Officer, for the Period 8 Financial Report. Mr. Anderson reviewed both revenue and expenses and stated that everything is in line.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – The Director's Report was distributed with the Board meeting packet. There were no additions to the report.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Operations Committee: Presented a Committee Recommendation to approve the position of Supervisor of County Branches and make this position retroactive to February 1, 2008. Frank Star seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed unanimously.**

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Operations Committee: Presented two Committee Recommendations as follows:
  - a. Policy CIR1 Library Cards – Recommendation to change the fee charged for Guest Computer Cards from \$2.00 to \$5.00. Mimi Childs seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed unanimously.**
  - b. Policy CIR9 Fines – Recommendation to charge a \$5 fee for sending out a second overdue notice. Gary Griesheim seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed unanimously.**
2. Facilities Committee: Mimi Childs reported that Ryan Clements, Newton Aaron & Associates will present a detailed update on the SPLOST Needs List at the April Board meeting. She reported that Bob Kidd, Hecht Burdeshaw Architects, will present a status report of the Mildred L. Terry Construction Project at the May Board meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The Chair reported that an email was received by Claudya Muller from Dr. Billy Kendall, Muscogee County School District, asking for projects the library would want included in the upcoming SPLOST request. The email stated that construction of a new branch off Psalmond Road had already been put in the SPLOST by Myles Caggins of the school district. The Chair asked the Board for their input on how they should proceed with the request. After detailed discussion, the Board decided not to ask for a new library branch on Psalmond Road but for additional funding for the Mildred L. Terry Construction Project. The Chair and Ms. Muller are to meet with Dr. Phillips on April 2 to discuss the SPLOST.

CHAIR'S REPORT – There was none.

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 24, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.