

**Winnipeg Public Library Board meeting  
Monday, November 7, 2011, 5:00 pm  
Millennium Library – Carol Shields Auditorium**

**MINUTES**

Present: Rita Burgess, Al Hoeft, Douglas MacEwan, Atarrha Wallace, Ross Eadie, Jeff Browaty, Kym Shwaluke, Bill McDonald, Bill Zuk, Jacqueline St. Hill, Vernon DePape, Jean Mabee

Regrets: Rick Walker, Iyvan Michylchyshyn

Absent: David Chung, Trevor Surgenor

Guests: Danielle Pilon – Head of Reader Services, Terry Jordan – Writer-in-Residence, Gail Doherty, sitting in for Rick Walker.

1. **Call to order** Rita Burgess calls the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda** Motion to approve by Jean Mabee, seconded by Bill Zuk. Carried
3. **Approval of October 3, 2011 minutes** - Motion to approve, Councillor Ross Eadie, seconded by Kym Shwaluke. Carried
4. **Guests – Writer-in-Residence, Terry Jordan; Danielle Pilon, Head of Reader Services; Gail Doherty – Administrative Coordinator of Central Services** (sitting in for Rick Walker). Rita Burgess welcomes and introduces Danielle Pilon, Terry Jordan and Gail Doherty. Danielle Pilon gives the Board a brief bio as introduction to Terry Jordan. Terry Jordan gives a brief background on his Writer-in-Residence experiences. He feels interest in Winnipeg is double what he has seen in other residencies in the past. As part of his residency, he is here to edit and encourage writers. He's really looking forward to the year, and is happy and grateful to be here. Questions and Answers: Q. What are you writing now? A. A long novel. It's set mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, dealing with sailors. He spent a year in Matlock, MB, and the lake was part inspiration. B. Can you tell us about the Sage Hill Writing experience? A. It's a wonderful program that has been going for about 15 years now. It is held at St. Michael's retreat, just outside of Regina, near Lumsden. It covers fiction, poetry, non-fiction; This year had a mystery component. It is offered to all ages, 18 – 75, and the food is fabulous. Q. You wrote a book of stories: *It's a Hard Cow*? A. It's a metaphor for working hard. An MP once misconstrued what I was going to do, and it is loosely inspired from that experience. Q. In regards to Young Adults, will you do a workshop to bring young adults into the library system, for example, in Westwood? A. Danielle Pilon says that they are Interested in doing a memoirs and a song writing workshop, which might be more appealing to youth. Terry Jordan thanks the Board again, and says he is very impressed with the Millennium Library renovations.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes (or can be covered during Reports)**
  - a. On the Same Page book purchases – eryl will be bringing the book purchases for the Board to the December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.
6. **Reports**
  - a. **Chair** –Rita Burgess is happy to report that Councillors Ross Eadie and Jeff Browaty have been re-appointed to the Board. Douglas MacEwan made a contribution to the United Way, who published an article about it in their report. The United Way report

with Douglas' photo and article was passed around. Douglas MacEwan and Rita Burgess attended the Capital Budget meeting on November 2, 2011. There was an appetite for tax increases amongst people who attended. The population of Winnipeg was 684100 in 2010. The 2012 capital budget is being passed in late November 2011. Rita Burgess thanks Rick Walker for recognizing LACs as donors in the 2010 Library Annual Report. Douglas MacEwan acknowledges further attendance to the Capital Budget meeting in the future. The people who were at the meeting were very pleased there was WPLB representation there.

- b. Treasurer** – Al Hoeft handed out copies of the Comparative Income Statements to end of October 2011 and pointed out a few things worth noting. Under expenses, everything is close to where the board wants it to be. There is still \$15000.00 unallocated for research. The Board made a contribution of \$1500 to the MLTA. Bank charges and interest haven't been put in yet, and there are still have some awards to put out. The accounts are close in most of the major expenses, and there should be a little bit of a surplus remaining to take us into early part of next year. A discussion was had about Library Research and Reports. The Board makes an allocation every year and spends it every second year. Rick Walker has put forward the possibility of a study on information and reference services. Board Reps to LACs are asked to let the chairs know to spend their allocation before the year-end and/or hand in their receipts. A discussion regarding the GST followed. A preliminary budget for 2012 is going to be put together by Al Hoeft, Kym Shwaluke and Eryn Mackenzie. The role of Treasurer will become more of a management/supervision role as Eryn Mackenzie takes on more of the accounting.
- c. Executive Meeting with Mayor Katz** – On October 31, Rita Burgess, Jacqueline St. Hill, Councillor Jeff Browaty and Councillor Ross Eadie met with Mayor Sam Katz, and his assistant, Carmen. It was a good meeting and had a wide-ranging discussion. The Strategic Plan makes planning for meetings like this a lot easier, as the attendees were able to speak to what is currently happening. Rita Burgess put in a verbal ask for the WPLB grant. The Board is intending to seek a 10-15% increase to the materials budget and talked about increased hours at Millennium Library. Mayor Katz has requested the Board set up a meeting with Provincial Minister Flor Marcelino to discuss the current funding formula. Councillor Jeff Browaty would like to attend as well. It was a very positive meeting. The next step, once the Annual Report is completed, is to go before the Standing Committee to put in an ask for not only our grant, but an increase to the materials budget, as well. We seem to have very positive support for libraries on City council.
- d. Community Outreach** – The Community Outreach Committee is meeting at the Cornish Library at 5:00 on December 1. The Committee will be looking at the JMCO Grants to investigate ways to increase applications.
- e. Manager of Library Services** – Gail Doherty sitting in for Rick Walker – Rick Walker is away at CULC Conference. (See report). Rick will make a full report at next meeting. Library Park will be opening up for pedestrian traffic for the winter months. Family Literacy Fun Days are being held throughout early 2012, and the Library is putting out a call to LACs for volunteers. The events are 2 hours, and the volunteer time is 3 hours. Eryn Mackenzie will be sending out an email to the LACs about this opportunity. The Libraries, excluding Millennium, will be offering room bookings for meetings for free. Gail Doherty is thanked for sitting in for Rick Walker.
- f. Public Library Services** - Trevor Surgenor was away November 7.

- g. **LACs – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries** - Rick Walker and another staff member attended all of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries and said they were well attended. Kym Shwaluke - Transcona held their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She received an email saying they had a good time. Bill Zuk – The Assiniboine LAC held a Meet’n’Greet at the Westwood Library. One of the LAC members came up with book plates. Douglas MacEwan said it was an excellent day. When people entered the library, the LAC members were at a table to greet them. All the people who came in with children stayed to participate. A cake, in the form of four books, went over really well with the attendees. The librarians who attended were very happy and would be delighted to do it again. Lori Van Dongen, Chair of the Assiniboia LAC, asked everyone who came in if they’d heard about the LAC. She is a good advocate.
- h. **Books2Eat** – The committee, consisting of Jacqueline St. Hill, Jean Mabee, Bill Zuk, Lori Van Dongen and Danielle Pilon, will be meeting November 15 at noon at the Millennium Library to begin setting up what’s taking shape for the 2012 event.
- i. **Aboriginal Needs Assessment Progress Review** – Attarha Wallace reported on the Aboriginal Needs Assessment Progress Review (see report). Rita Burgess acknowledges that the Board did finance this study, and it’s nice to know it’s a living document.
- j. **Manitoba Library Trustees’ Association (MLTA)** - Douglas MacEwan reported that the meeting was held at Riel Public library, and four people attended. They have an AGM, and they have to give notice to all the branches in the province. The signing officer from Winkler has dual citizenship with the USA, which is requesting everything a citizen signs must be submitted. It is still open for debate how to resolve this. The MLA conference is being held MAY 14, 15, and 16, 2012. They are trying to find a speaker for advocacy for rural libraries. The Board will need to find a new representative for the MLTA, as Douglas MacEwan is finishing his final term, as is Jane Fudge and a number of other people. Once they can get a dedicated website running, membership may increase as they can get the word out that there only needs to be one meeting a year, and other meetings can be conference calls. The president of the MLTA, Marvin Plett, will likely be at the AMM (Association of Manitoba Municipalities).
- k. **Winnipeg Library Foundation** – Jacqueline St. Hill attended the October 6 meeting on behalf of WPLB. The Co –Chair, Paula Mitchell, has resigned. The WLF AGM is on Nov. 22, at 7:00 pm in the Foundation office. Jacqueline St. Hill encouraged people to attend. The WLF was reminded that they report quarterly to receive their grant and that the initial report letter was a good format. Capacity building for the WLF board was discussed at length. They are actively looking for new member for the Foundation board.
- l. **BookMates Breakfast** – The fundraising breakfast was held on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Attarha Wallace and Bill Zuk attended on behalf of the board. Joanne Kelly, formerly of SHAW and Jim Rondeau were in attendance. The Guest speaker was Karen Davis of Ebb and Flow First Nation, who was the Brandon YMCA Woman of Distinction 2011, and was instrumental in initiating the Imagination Library Program in Manitoba in 2009. The program fundraises for and supplies one book a month to children from birth until 5 years, for a total of 60 books. Seven Aboriginal communities in the Western area currently have this in place. Karen Davis’ goal is to bring program to all 64 communities within Manitoba. Someone from BookMates would be really interested in meeting with the Board. Community Outreach is suggested for this. They had some of the books on display. Because of the large bulk purchases, they are brought in at 1 -2 dollars a piece. They showed a video of how it’s being received very enthusiastically received by the children. Dolly Parton started the Imagination program. Al Hoefl mentions he saw Ms. Parton speak to this in Montreal.

They quite often partner with Rotary Clubs. Service Clubs are potentially good partners. Bill Zuk and Attarha are thanked for attending the breakfast.

- m. **Strategic Plan** - The Board is a little ahead with the Provincial planning, but are otherwise right on track.

## 7. New Business

- a. **Nominating Committee** – Vernon DePape wants to head a nomination committee for the upcoming year. Voting is in January. Rita Burgess is giving up her position as Chair. So if anyone has interest in being on the Executive, please contact Vernon DePape. All positions are up. Rita Burgess mentions to give it some thought. It's important to have an active executive, and there are lots of interesting things happening in 2012. She reminds the Board that the Executive Committee generally meets at the Millennium Library the Monday prior to the regular Board meeting.
- b. Follow up Letters to elected MLAs – Rita Burgess will be setting up a meeting with Trevor Surgenor to discuss meeting with Provincial Minister Flor Marcelino.

## 8. Other Business

- a. December Meeting – The meeting is at 4:30, eryl mackenzie will be emailing instructions to get there, parking etc. Councillor Jeff Browaty sends his regrets.
- b. Recruitment and Vacancies, and Board Roles – coming up to time to apply for the Board. For those of you that are Board Reps to LACs, please remind them. eryl mackenzie send reminder email as well. References are on file.
- c. Board Schedule for 2012 – note that there will be no board meeting in July or August, and Mondays will still be the meeting day.

## 9. Date and Location of Next meeting

Monday, December 5, 2012, 4:30 pm  
Location: 599 Portage Avenue, Room Number TBA, Dinner in *elements* Restaurant

## 10. Adjournment Bill Zuk adjourn 6:27