



## **BOARD MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING 11-16-16**

The Board of Trustees of the Meridian Library District met for its regular meeting at 7:00 pm on Wednesday November 16, 2016 in the Large Conference Room at the Library on Cherry Lane.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Megan Larsen, Chair; Dustin Barrett, Vice-Chair; Howard Little, Trustee; Douglas Rutan, Trustee; Christina Hirsch, Trustee

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Gretchen Caserotti, Director; Jeanie Gerwig, Finance Manager; Dawn Cronk, Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS:** Travis Porter, Librarian/Branch Manager; Maria Ricks, School Librarian; Becky McKinstry; Holly Beech

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Megan Larsen, Chair called the meeting to order at 7 :00 pm
2. **GUEST COMMENTS:** Becky of the Vote Yes Committee felt the amount of voters who came out specifically to vote for the bond was encouraging and shared optimism about running the measure again in the future.
3. **TRUSTEE OATH OF OFFICE:** Christina Hirsch read and signed the Trustee Oath of Office.
4. **MEETING AGENDA:** No changes.
5. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Consent agenda items are considered routine and are acted on with one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless the Board Chair, a member of the library board, library staff, or a patron requests an item to be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.
  - a. Regular Meeting Minutes October 19, 2016
  - b. Special Meeting Minutes October 25, 2016

Megan pointed out minor typos in the Regular Meeting Minutes October 19, 2016; 10a l& (2X) change to be land. Barrett made a MOTION to accept the Consent Agenda with October 19, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes minor typos corrected. Little seconded. All in favor, MOTION passed.

**6. OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORTS; Monthly Statements and Listing of the Bills:** The Finance Manager provided the Trustees with a Financial Observations Statement, all General Ledger & Balance Statements were included in board packets for review prior to the meeting. Megan wondered about salaries under 6%. Jeanie let her know we had to move money the last week in September payroll paid in October to 15-16 year (3 pay periods in the month).

Rutan made a MOTION to accept the October 2016 Financial Report, & the Monthly Statements & Listing of Bills, Barrett seconded. All in favor, MOTION passed.

**7. BOND ELECTION RESULTS & DISCUSSION:** Caserotti gave summaries from the 2015 & 2016 election. Some strategic questions need to be asked since both measures only received 59% of the vote in favor. We put out lots of information, made adjustments to the projects/proposals & had record high turnout for the election.

- What do we do now? Should we run this again? We had a larger turnout but with the same result. Larsen thinks we should take a step back and rethink our next steps.
- How do we maintain our existing footprint & how do we expand our footprint? What should we use to meet the needs of our population?
- What is in the mind of the no voters? What are the reasons for them to vote no? How many voters got incorrect ballots?
- The Silverstone lease is coming up in Sept 2017. unBound building sold so, in 2019 we will need another location. Renovations are needed at Cherry Lane. Do we have the right facility plan in place?
- What is the scope of our financing options?
- With the Hill project, how do we manage the plug and play for the school library/public library?
- Ada Community Library has an interest in merging with us as one District. This was proposed before, should we consider the idea? Should we revisit our Master Plan? Consolidating services is an option. We should be driven by what the community needs. How do we approach discussion?
- Rutan wants to get more information on all options. Barrett asked about Nampa's supersite. What are the YMCA and WASD thinking of doing? What is CWI's plan to move forward? Caserotti - a 60,000 sq. ft supersite is for a 150K population. During planning, chose the distributed the footprint model with smaller branches. There is a sit down planned with the attorneys to look at what we can do next.
- Funding options: long-term lease strategy, fundraising privately through a foundation. We cannot save up money as we can only use our money to lease, & renovate.
- Which developers might build and possibly lease to the library?
- Larsen suggests gathering all this information before we decide anything. We can cull info from the no voters to find out why they voted no. Do an in-depth polling. There will be a Listening Tour, and notes from it given to Board members. Mid-term elections are difficult to get people to vote. Bond fatigue, what conditions will change to make us want to go for a 3<sup>rd</sup> try at a bond.
- Funding/Master Plan review must be concurrent. Rutan suggested revisiting joining with ACL. ACL would not increase services in Meridian. It would radically change our brand/footprint. Purchasing vs leasing? Possibly develop the land we have? Barrett thinks we need a fact-finding group. What are our options if we do not go for another bond? How do we get yes voters to show up in a low turnout election?

**Action Items:** Look into an official, scientific poll to find out more information. Possibly \$10,000-25,000 to do so. The board wants Caserotti to get a proposal for doing a poll as a first step. Obtain the Ada County CD of public data, precinct demographics, and voting history from our recent election. Caserotti will take the boards questions, get together with Macey, and

create a meeting in a bag with three questions to ask people to take to casual meetings; book clubs and neighborhood chats.

**8. TREASURER SEAT DISCUSSION/ELECTION:** Barrett nominated Christina Hirsch to be the Treasurer, Little seconded. Hirsch will meet with Jeanie to go over the financials. All in favor, MOTION passed.

**9. SET HOURS OF OPERATION FOR 2017:**

- a. Potential holiday closures change discussion – unBound hours will change. No changes to Silverstone or Cherry Lane.
- b. Holidays – door counter does not work well. MLK Day and President’s Day fall on those days when school is out. We should consider being open as a destination for families. Possibly skeleton staffing on those days? Are we consistent, should we keep main open, but not the branch? Can we be open on days when the schools are out & have staff use a floating holiday? Barrett asked what message we are sending to the community if we do not honor the holidays. We can wait a year, run it by the staff, and then try it with one of the holidays.

Rutan made a MOTION to accept the hours of operation as presented for 2016/2017, Barrett seconded. All in favor, MOTION passed.

**10. DIRECTOR REPORT:** Larsen was impressed with all the programs being run. It is phenomenal all the comments that are so positive about the library and the impact on patrons lives. Little wants to know how to get the information out there that we have more in the building than books. Rutan mentioned all the pictures on the Facebook page of what we have going on and honoring staff is very popular. Caserotti mentioned a survey from Staff Day was completed and Trustees invited to attend the staff holiday party.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Chair, Megan Larsen at 8:17 pm.

The next regular Library Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in the Large Conference Room at the Library on Cherry Lane.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED & APPROVED**

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Gretchen Caserotti, Library Director

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Megan Larsen, Board Chair