



**Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees
April 17, 2007
Minutes**

The Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, April 17, 2007, at the Library Center with President Krystal Compas presiding.

Members present: Krystal Compas, Gary Funk, Neil Guion, Morey Mechlin, Stephanie Stenger-Montgomery, Jean Woody

Members absent: Bruce Chrisope, Cherri Jones, Rodney Nichols

Disposition of Minutes: Mechlin moved to approve the March 20, 2007, minutes. Montgomery seconded. Compas yea, Guion yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea, Woody yea. Motion carried.

Gary Funk arrived at the meeting.

Finance and Personnel Committee: Stephanie Stenger-Montgomery reported the committee approved the lease for the downtown library branch after adding a clause for provisions for canceling the lease if acceptable food service was not provided within a specified period of time.

The Springfield Public School District requested renewing the lease for the two north parking lots at the Midtown Carnegie Branch. After reviewing the fair market value of the property, the rent was adjusted to \$22,000, based on an increase of two percent per year for the five years the property has been leased to the school system.

Montgomery moved to lease the two north parking lots at the Midtown Carnegie Branch to the Springfield Public School System for nine months beginning August 20, 2007, to May 31, 2008, for \$22,000. Woody seconded. Compas yea, Funk yea, Guion yea, Mechlin abstained, Montgomery yea, Woody yea. Motion carried. Mechlin abstained because she is employed by the Springfield Public Schools Foundation.

Through March, the Library was 4.6% under budget. Income included a quarterly distribution from the Buhrman Trust and grant income for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Teen Spaces grant.

Expenses included printing of the spring issue of *Bookends* and principal and interest payments from the bond accounts. The Library has \$6,120,000 outstanding in leasehold revenue bonds.

The gross profit margin for Café 641 was 54.4% with total income of \$18,133.36 and expenses at \$16,332.81. The café net income was \$1,800.55. In March, Café 641 catered meals for nine meetings totaling \$2,623.99.

Mechlin moved to accept the financial report. Woody seconded. Compas yea, Funk yea, Guion yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea, Woody yea. Motion carried.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: A survey required by the city for the issuance of a building permit has been completed and sent to the architect to obtain the building permit for the Strafford Branch so renovation of the building can begin. Executive Director Annie Busch, Outreach Manager Allison Eckhardt and landlord Marc Whitmore will meet with the new mayor about the new branch.

Programs, Services and Technology Committee: No report.

Report of the Director: Board President Krystal Compas will travel to Washington, D.C., to attend National Library Legislative Day at the Capitol on May 1-2.

Busch met with a vendor interested in providing food service for the new downtown library. She also did a program for City Council members and for the North Side Betterment Association and an interview with the St. Louis Business Journal about the new branch. Planning and Development Coordinator Carol Grimes is heading a staff ad hoc committee to develop the service and collection plans for the downtown library.

Attorney Doug Nickel reviewed the Library Foundation bylaws to determine if there is proper separation of Library and Foundation board operations. Nickel found no problems with the current organizational structure and also noted that any Foundation bylaw changes do not require Library Board approval.

Morey Mechlin and Krystal Compas will compile a list of potential new Foundation board members.

Staff at the Midtown Carnegie Branch moved the reference desk from the building and combined circulation and reference staff activities into one desk. Brentwood Branch staff created a living room arrangement in their reading area. Other branches will also make changes to move staff out from behind desks to interact with the public.

The Library Foundation and the Springfield Ballet's co-sponsored fundraising event at the preview performance of *Romeo and Juliet* will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 19, at the Landers Theatre. Proceeds from this preview event will be split between the ballet and the Library.

The Friends of the Library book sale will be held on May 24-28 at Remington's.

More than 150 patrons attended the book signing for David Harrison's 73rd book, "Cave Detectives: Unraveling the Mystery of an Ice Age Cave". MOREnet arranged for lead paleontologist Matt Forir and his crew to videoconference from River Bluff Cave to libraries and other institutions that have videoconferencing equipment. A link was provided on the Library's web site for anyone in the world to view the program. The program will also be archived on the Library's web site.

New Business: President Krystal Compas appointed Neil Guion to the Republic Enhanced Enterprise Zone.

It was the consensus of the Board to table the review of the Board goals and two-year priorities until the May Board meeting. Compas asked Board members to review the priorities from the March Board retreat and send their suggestions and ranking of goals to Compas and Busch within the next two weeks.

Miscellaneous Items: Montgomery moved to adjourn the meeting. Funk seconded. Compas yea, Funk yea, Guion yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea, Woody yea. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Board of Trustees

Debbie Eckert, Business Office Manager