



**Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees
April 19, 2005
Minutes**

The Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, April 19, 2005, at the Republic Branch Library.

Members present: Bruce Chrisope, Cherri Jones, Bill Mauck, Morey Mechlin, Stephanie Stenger-Montgomery, Jean Woody

Member absent: Krystal Compas, Gary Funk, Rodney Nichols

County Branch Coordinator Jim Schmidt gave a brief overview of the Republic Branch. The branch has been at its current location since June 14, 2001, and has a staff of two full-time, six part-time and one page. The branch owns more than 40,000 items and checks out more than 16,000 items per month. Currently, the estimated population of Republic is 11,200 residents with a projected population of 25,000-30,000 people. The community continues to be supportive of the Library, its services and staff.

Disposition of Minutes: Chrisope moved to approve the March 15, 2005, minutes. Mauck seconded. Chrisope yea, Jones yea, Mauck yea, Mechlin yea, Woody yea. Motion carried.

Finance and Personnel Committee: Chair Bruce Chrisope reported the committee met with U. S. Bank Portfolio Manager David Schiegoleit and Trust Officer Becky Bonner and reviewed the Albert J. Buhrman Charitable Foundation portfolio. The trust has been in existence for 51 months and was designed to distribute annually a fixed percentage of 5% of the value of the investments on a quarterly basis. The investments are well diversified with a professionally managed portfolio.

Through March, the Library was .5% over budget. Income included the quarterly disbursement from the Buhrman trust. Miscellaneous Income included receipts from Nestle Purina for pet-related books and items, an annual distribution from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks for books purchased from the Dr. G. B. Lemmon Sr. Fund for Nonfiction and reimbursement from the sale of copies of *The Directory*. The Library collected online \$880.52 in fines and out-of-county fees from 95 transactions in March.

Expenses include payment for printing of *The Directory*, quarterly *Bookends* and bookmarks for the Wilder programs from Account 5342 Printing. Account 5371 Building Repair included repair of the transformer and replacement of the canopy lights at the Library Station and installation of security cameras at the Brentwood Branch. Account 5373 included annual maintenance on the FundWare accounting software and transfer of payments for satellite service that was charged to the wrong account number. Account 5374 Plant Equipment Repairs included duct cleaning at the Midtown Carnegie Branch and the Brentwood Branch.

Woody moved to accept the financial report as presented. Mauck seconded. Chrisope yea, Jones yea, Mauck yea, Mechlin yea, Woody yea. Motion carried.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Executive Director Annie Busch will meet with the Strafford mayor in May.

Committee member Cherri Jones reported the “Dream a Dream...But Make It Count” flyer, distributed throughout the branches, encourages this year’s high school sophomores and juniors to join a team from the Hammons School of Architecture at Drury University in designing an urban library of the future. The flyer asks teenagers to submit a one-page essay explaining why they want to be part of this process. The semester-long project, beginning in the fall, includes a three-day weekend charette and design summit to be held in a storefront on South Street.

The cost of the project will not exceed \$4,000. These funds will be used to cover the cost of the materials, printing of the drawings, printing of the final document, reports and recommendations.

Programs, Services and Technology Committee: Chair Cherri Jones reported that the committee is working on the strategic plan and goals for Outreach, Local History and Collection Management departments.

Library card registrations decreased 12.6% with a total of 1,523 new cardholders in March. Circulation increased 3.1% with 283,139 materials circulating systemwide. MOBIUS circulation statistics only cover the first ten days of March because the process that compiles the statistics is not working properly. Innovative is working to correct the problem. Systemwide, 1,560 groups used the meeting rooms with an attendance of 10,787 and 275 programs were held with an attendance of 4,964. There were 332,673 searches from the Library’s electronic products. The web server had a total of 368,756 page views by 46,176 visitors during the month of March.

Stephanie Stenger-Montgomery arrived at the meeting

Report of the Director: Busch reminded the Board of the press conference announcing the Frisco digitization project that will be held at the Library Station at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26. Missouri State Librarian Sara Parker and Springfield Underground owner Louis Griesemer, who provided the Library with access to the original photos and documents, will speak at the press conference.

A delivery vehicle backed into the transformer at the Library Center and the branch was closed until 3 p.m. on April 1 for repairs. An insurance claim has been filed, and the costs of repairs are approximately \$5,000.

Busch reported on the impact of the governor’s budget cuts for MOBIUS and MOREnet funding. The governor’s budget zeroed out all MOBIUS funding and cut MOREnet’s appropriation by 30%. State aid appropriations were reduced by \$1 million, which will result in a \$30,000 reduction for Springfield-Greene County Library District.

Busch gave a brief history on the Athletes and Entertainers Tax and how the funds were intended to be distributed. These funds have not been appropriated for the past two years.

Board President Morey Mechlin asked each Board member if they supported her writing a letter to the editor of the *News-Leader* about the proposed MOBIUS, MOREnet and Athletes and Entertainers Tax funding cuts. It was the consensus of the Board to support Mechlin’s writing a

letter to the editor of the *New-Leader* about the proposed funding cuts for MOBIUS, MOREnet and the Athletes and Entertainers Tax.

The Springfield Cardinals will co-sponsor a Family Reading Club and Library Night at the Ballpark this summer. The "Get in the Game" promotion coincides with the children's and young adult summer reading clubs and programs. Library Night at the Ballpark will be held on Friday, June 10.

The Library is partnering with the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Foundation to provide meeting space and assist in the promotion of their "Love Them, Don't Leave Them Wondering" program. The program will provide forms and assistance to those wanting to complete their advanced directives.

The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks will unveil a Water Quality for Life kiosk at the Library Center on Friday, April 22. The interactive computer game, designed to teach kids the importance of keeping the earth's water supply clean and safe, is the centerpiece of a new collection of books, videos and Water Quality Bags for checkout donated by the Watershed Committee through a grant.

New Business: Planning and Development Coordinator Carol Grimes reported that the telephone survey conducted by Opinion Research Specialists, Inc. found very strong support for a proposed shared library facility located on the campus of the new Republic High School. The survey of 450 completed contacts showed that support for a possible collaboration exceeded 50% across all demographic groups tested. The highest percentage of support came from younger-to-middle-aged respondents and those with children in the household. A full report of the survey will be presented to the Board at May's meeting.

Library Center Branch Manager Lorraine Sandstrom reviewed the proposed Bankruptcy Policy. Several proposed changes and clarifications were suggested. Woody moved to accept the Bankruptcy Policy after clarifications were made to the policy. Jones seconded. Chrisope nay, Jones nay, Mauck nay, Mechlin nay, Montgomery nay, Woody nay. Motion failed. The revised policy will be presented at the May meeting.

Library Center Branch Manager Lorraine Sandstrom has been accepted as a participant in the Leadership Springfield Academy, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the community through education and opportunities. Lorraine was one of 30 selected from 60 applicants.

The Finance and Personnel Committee proposed a 3% salary adjustment for staff members on the salary track and 1 ½% for those off the salary track for the 2005-2006 budget year. There would be no additional step increase for staff in the 2005-2006 budget. The budget will be presented at the May Board meeting and voted on at the June meeting.

Jones moved to approve the Board Goals for 2005-2006 with minor revisions. Mauck seconded. Chrisope yea, Jones yea, Mauck yea, Mechlin yea, Montgomery yea, Woody yea. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.