



**Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees**  
**April 21, 2009**  
**Minutes**

The Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, April 17, 2009, at the Lake Springfield Boathouse with Cherri Jones presiding.

Members present: Leslie Carrier, Bruce Chrisope, Martha Crise, Cheryl Griffeth, Vickie Hicks  
Cherri Jones, Rodney Nichols

Members absent: Neil Guion, Morey Mechlin

Disposition of Minutes: Nichols moved to approve the March 17, 2009, minutes. Carrier seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Hicks yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

Finance and Personnel Committee: Executive Director Regina Cooper and Associate Director of Public Services Jim Schmidt began educating the Administrative Staff on the budget process. They will also explain the budget process to staff at their branch staff meetings. Extra time will be allotted at the May Board meeting to review the 2009-2010 budget.

Through March, the Library was 6.7% under budget. Year-to-date revenue totals \$11,349,074 versus \$8,588,156 in total expenses. The budgeted amounts reflect the revised budget approved at the March 17 Board meeting. Income included a grant from the Library Foundation for books and materials. Trust Income included the quarterly disbursement from the Buhrman Trust.

Expenses in Account 6411 included a new larger book return at the Price Cutter location on East Battlefield, remodeling expenses and lounge chairs for the Library Station teen area.

Chrisope moved to accept the financial report. Griffeth seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Hicks yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: The drywall is almost completed and the exterior nearly finished on the new Willard Branch Library. The grand opening is tentatively scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 6.

Brooke Cinalli, interior designer for the new Republic Branch, displayed conceptual ideas envisioning a rustic modern interior. She plans to use earth colors in a neutral palette to express the area's history of agriculture and its prairie beginnings. The branch is scheduled for a late summer opening.

Renovations to the Library Center teen area are almost complete. A reception will be held in the teen area on Monday, May 11, to recognize the Friends of the Library for their contribution to the project.

The owner of a home directly behind the Brentwood Branch on Seminole Avenue has contacted the Library about the possibility of selling it to the Library for future expansion of the facility. Cooper, Schmidt and Manager Marilyn Prosser will meet with the homeowner about his offer.

The Library is waiting for an appraisal on a piece of property in Fair Grove. The current lease will expire in 2010.

*Vickie Hicks left the meeting.*

Programs, Services and Technology Committee: Circulation in March increased 13.6% with 348,263 materials circulating systemwide. Total branch traffic increased 18.4% with 170,335 patron visits. Systemwide, 1,818 groups used the meeting rooms with an attendance of 9,932. There were 318,101 searches from the Library's electronic products. The web server recorded a total of 1,043,724 page views by 91,831 visitors during March.

Report of the Director: Staff is finalizing plans for the new Willard Branch grand opening. Magic Mama, an environmental singer and entertainer, will kick-off the summer reading program with a performance at the grand opening event. Representative Shane Schoeller will sponsor a resolution recognizing the branch.

Cooper and Planning and Development Coordinator Carol Grimes met with Ash Grove Mayor Brenda Ellsworth about local issues.

On April 2-4, Cooper and three other staff members attended the Public Library Association Symposium in Nashville, Tennessee.

In May, Cooper will tour the Meyer Library at Missouri State University and participate in the Springfield National Day of Prayer.

Biographer Charles Shields presented three talks, "Harper Lee: A Literary Mystery," to more than 120 patrons at the Library Center and Brentwood Branch and spoke to 168 students at Glendale High School. United States Representative Roy Blunt attended one of the talks. The events were funded by the Library Foundation.

Paper recycling continues to increase. The Library receives a small commission from the recycling program.

In April, Between Friends Gift Shop sales increased 12 percent.

Board of Trustees President Cherri Jones will represent the Board at the volunteer luncheon at noon on Thursday, April 23.

The Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale will be held from April 28-May 3 at Remington's. The preview night is Monday, April 27.

Chrisope moved to adjourn the meeting. Crise seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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Board of Trustees

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Debbie Eckert, Business Office Manager