



**Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees
December 20, 2011
Minutes**

The Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, December 20, 2011, at the Jordan Valley Community Health Center with Leslie Carrier presiding.

Members present: Leslie Carrier, Martha Crise, Cheryl Griffeth, Vickie Hicks, James Jeffries, Kim Kollmeyer, Jim Meadows, David Richards

Member absent: Kenton DeVries

Disposition of Minutes: Jeffries corrected the November minutes for the meeting location as the Library Station. Hicks moved to approve the November 19, 2011, minutes as corrected. Kollmeyer seconded. Carrier yea, Griffeth yea, Hicks yea, Jeffries yea, Kollmeyer yea, Meadows yea, Richards yea. Motion carried.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Griffeth reported that the Library had requested a federal low-interest loan from the Department of Natural Resources for the HVAC system at the Brentwood Branch, but it approved a loan of only \$41,000, which is not enough to do the job. One reason it was denied was because of low energy costs in the Springfield-Greene County area. We will look at other options for financing the project. Cooper reported that the Library has decided to decline the grant since we didn't see how to do it at this time.

The Library Center driveway landscaping project is complete.

The Foundation office lettering is finished, the paint has been selected, and furniture has been moved in.

The paging system is up and running at the Library Center, with the Library Station and Midtown-Carnegie Branch to be completed next.

An addendum to the lease for the Republic Branch has been filed to change the named Lessee.

As an update on the Brentwood Branch project, Cooper reported that the timeline is on hold until a Foundation Director is hired. With regard to the Titus grant, we are still waiting for their determination.

Report of the Director:

- Executive Director Regina Greer Cooper reported that the Springfield Christmas Parade went well. The Mobile Library was driven by staff member Sheri Casada, and other staff including Cooper walked along with it.

[Crisis arrived.]

- Cooper reported that staff members Allison Eckhardt and Gina Maria Walden worked at the Springfield Area Hope Connection on September 1, informing the homeless of the services the Library has to offer them.
- Food For Fines week will be the week of January 22 through 28, with 50 cents credit on a patron's overdue fines balance per food item brought in.
- The Between Friends Gift Shop Holiday Store did well again this year, earning about \$4,500 towards the Summer Reading Program.
- Electronic Resources Librarian Renee Brumett worked with Innovative Interfaces, Inc. to get a deeper discount for the Library and saved \$52,487. Brumett also reported that the "go green" initiative was successful in signing up more than 2,000 people to switch from mail notifications to email, saving both resources and staff time.
- The real property assessment on the Republic Branch went up significantly in 2011 because the new assessment includes the new building, adding about \$12,000 to the taxes on that property.
- Tax breaks and abatements on the Solo Cup property will cost the Library about \$24,000 in tax revenues over the next 10 years.
- The Racing to Read initiative developed by the Library's Youth Services Department is being emulated by the Mid-Continent Public Library. The unique program, presented at the MLA convention by Youth Services Coordinator Nancee Dahms-Stinson and former staff member Jessie Alexander-East, includes activities for the very youngest babies and toddlers.
- The new Library Annual Report is in print and available.
- A grant for \$2,500 has been awarded to the Library for the Building Common Ground Civility Initiative.
- Staff member Sarah Bean Thompson has been accepted as a Young Adult columnist in the "Public Libraries Journal."

Board Education: Health Librarian Cory Mihalik presented information on the Jordan Valley Community Health Center Health Library. The Health Library opened in mid-August using funds granted to the Jordan Valley Community Health Center by the Missouri Foundation for Health. Mihalik divides his time between the Health Library and the Library Center. The Health Library draws many new patrons who would not otherwise visit one of the branch libraries. It is the only library service in a community health center in Missouri, according to the Missouri Foundation for Health.

Finance and Personnel Committee: Cooper reported for the Finance-Personnel Committee that the Library is 3.4 percent under budget with 41.7 percent of the fiscal year passed. The year-to-date revenues are at \$906,894, and year-to-date expenses are at \$3,792,327. Although not reflected in the November budget summary since it came in December, the Library received its first tax revenue check for approximately \$1,475,000. Trust income included Buhrman, Griggs and Stephens distributions. Salaries are at 40.6 percent which is slightly under budget. Account 5373 Office Equipment Repairs is at 80.9 percent due to an annual payment to Innovative Interfaces, Inc. of \$102,024.00. Cooper presented background information on the Buhrman Trust.

The meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Board of Trustees

Director of Business Operations