

## MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

A meeting of the Muskegon Area District Library Board was held on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Muskegon Area District Library – North Muskegon Branch, 1522 Ruddiman Drive, Muskegon, MI 49445. Staff present: M. Chandler-Nash, P. Croff, J. Endres, B. Hall, M. Higginbottom-Johnson, N. Schaner, R. Suszek, N. Voyt, and K. Wisniewski. Also present, M. Anderson, Legal Counsel. Members of the public in attendance: B. Reynolds of the Friends of Walker Memorial Library.

D. Hughes called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Present: Scolnik, Hughes, Aerts, Root, Richards, Vanaelst, Cruz, Hodges

Excused: none

### Approval of Agenda

#### **Motion by Hodges, Second by Root**

**That the agenda be approved as presented.**

**Motion Carried**

### Board Development

P. Croff explained that adult programs and children's storytimes continue to be very popular with the community. He introduced Youth Librarian, Nick Voyt, who brings experience as a licensed teacher. The branch has added a Library of Things to their collection using gift funds. The collection includes items such as a car diagnostic scanner, record player, Nintendo Switches, projector screens and a DVD/Blu-ray player. The collection can be found under the online catalog or in person at the branch's circulation desk. A representative from the library attends monthly City Council meetings for updates regarding the library's building renovations. The estimated timeline is anywhere from March 2024 to December 2024 before any renovations begin. L. Aerts questioned how they are reaching teens? N. Voyt mentioned that the library tries to connect with teens by providing resources that are relevant to their lives.

### Consent Agenda

#### **Motion by Hodges, Second by Aerts**

**That the MADL Board approves the Consent Agenda Items 5.a. through 5.c.**

**Motion Carried**

### Vouchers

#### **Motion by Hodges, Second by Cruz**

**That the MADL Board approves the vouchers for October 2023.**

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES: Aerts, Richards, Scolnik, Hodges, Hughes, Vanaelst, Cruz, Root**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion Carried**

### Committee Reports

None.

### Reports/Questions

R. Suszek reported that the Big Read and Jerry Craft events were well attended, and the program continues to attract more community support and understanding. He reiterated that the North Muskegon renovation timeline is anywhere from March 2024 to December 2024 before any construction begins. However, the handicap accessible door is currently being fabricated and should be installed prior to the Department of Education's

deadline next June. J. Hodges questioned the increase of hours at the Laketon Township Branch. R. Suszek explained that there are 14,000 residents in the area, most of which utilize the North Muskegon Branch. Since the increase in hours, there have been steady patron counts at 20 per day. The outreach plan also includes outdoor programming during warmer months to reach more of the community.

B. Hall announced that the Norton Shores Branch Library received a \$662,000 donation from the Lois J. Eagan Estate. This will be brought to the Finance Committee to discuss ideas on how to use the donation as well as investment options. B. Scolnik suggested that the library do a publicity piece on this since it's a substantial gift.

B. Scolnik suggested that MADL put together a presentation on Artificial Intelligence (AI). K. Wisniewski stated that he has attended a few training courses on AI and has reached out to a professor at Muskegon Community College to possibly provide a program series on the topic. J. Endres explained that MADL is providing an AI program series at the North Muskegon Branch for parents with a focus on what AI is and how you can use it safely and effectively.

M. Chandler-Nash announced the new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) app that will be available for both staff and their families. The app includes fitness, workouts, recipes, and other health related resources. The hope is that the app will encourage more participation since it's readily available. She also reported that a new buyout option will be available for retiree dental care. This new option has a net effect on budget.

#### Old Business

Strategic Plan – No updates other than the recommended name change.

Study, Rebranding, and New Logo/Proposal for Name Change Study – The board discussed logo design options and considered possible risks and benefits of the proposed plan. This includes incorporating the use of "Wonderspace" along with "Muskegon Area District Library". The Board will take action at the December meeting.

#### New Business

2024 Holidays –

##### **Motion by Hodges, Second by Root**

**That the MADL Board approves the 2024 Holidays as presented.**

**Motion Carried**

2024 Staff In-Service Dates –

##### **Motion by Cruz, Second by Root**

**That the MADL Board approves two annual full-day staff in-services on Juneteenth and Columbus day.**

**Motion Carried**

2024 Board Meeting Schedule –

##### **Motion by Cruz, Second by Vanaelst**

**That the MADL Board approves the 2024 Board Meeting Schedule as presented.**

**Motion Carried**

2024 Medical Hard Cap – Public Act 152 is for government organizations that limits the public employer's expenditures for employee medical benefit plans. After reviewing the benefit of using the hard cap versus the 80/20 method, MADL is recommending the Board to approve the hard cap method. This distributes the cost of health care contributions evenly across employees, which ultimately lessens the burden to each employee enrolled in 2024. This is the same method that is currently being used for 2023.

**Motion by Aerts, Second by Richards**

**That the MADL Board approve the hard cap method for 2024 employee health insurance contributions pursuant to Public Act 152.**

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES: Vanaelst, Richards, Scolnik, Cruz, Hodges, Aerts, Root, Hughes**

**NAYS: None**

**Motion Carried**

**Public Comment**

Barb Reynolds of the Friends of Walker Memorial Library presented their Christmas/Holiday gift baskets that are available for purchase at the library. She too is concerned with the construction timeline and how that might affect their annual Egg Drop event.

**Board Comment**

J. Hodges thanked MADL for participating in Muskegon Charter Township's trick-or-treat event on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Hodges, Second by Cruz/Root**

**That the MADL Board meeting adjourns at 4:44 p.m.**

**Motion Carried**

**Reviewed and approved by Fawn Cruz, Secretary.**