A meeting of the Muskegon Area District Library Board was held on Monday, February 19, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Muskegon Area District Library Administration Building, 4845 Airline Road, Muskegon. Staff present: B. Hall, M. Higginbottom-Johnson, S. Rinsema-Sybenga, A. Susalla, R. Suszek, and K. Wisniewski. Also present, M. Anderson, Legal Counsel. K. Bates was in attendance from the North Muskegon Friends Group.

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Scolnik, Hughes, Aerts, Simmons, Hodges
Excused: Richards, Vanaelst
Absent: Root

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Hodges, Second by Scolnik

That the Agenda is approved as presented.  

Motion Carried

Board Development

Diana Wenger, Early Literacy Coordinator for MADL highlighted all the early literacy achievements in the past year. There has been an increase in all programs for 0-5’s. MADL is becoming very well known for the Storyville Villages. Diana has developed New “play” programming including Playtime Power Hour and 1-2-3 Play With Me which are very popular. Sessions have become so crowded; more sessions are being added. Programs are also being done at Muskegon Rescue Mission. J. Hodges inquired if there were any other Storyvilles in the state of Michigan and to MADL’s knowledge, there are not. D. Hughes and the Board gave thanks to Diana for all her outstanding work.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Hodges, Second by Simmons

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

Motion Carried

Vouchers for January 2024

Motion by Aerts, Second by Hodges

That the MADL Board approves the Vouchers for January 2024

ROLL CALL

AYES: Simmons, Hodges, Hughes, Scolnik, Aerts
NAYS: None       Motion Carried

Committee Reports
D. Hughes noted the Marketing/Rebranding/Millage Committee met and the minutes are attached. The next meeting will be held in March to resume talk of rebranding.

Reports/Questions
R. Suszek spoke about conversations that have been had with the City of Norton Shores and the City of North Muskegon regarding the current relationship with MADL regarding the buildings that house library service. Conversations have developed regarding MADL becoming the building owner in both locations. MADL will be considering the cost ramifications as well as growth and needs of the community if conversations proceed. The Board encouraged the Director to proceed with further discussions with both municipalities.

M. Chandler gave an update on HR activities. S. Rinsema-Sybenga spoke on the Humans of Muskegon program as well as the upcoming author programs. She mentioned the great partnerships happening that will help fund these great programs.

Old Business
R. Suszek discussed the attached Strategic Plan Update. He indicated that progress is being made on most of the initiatives. The Director said that he will be looking into hours open and staffing levels. A new initiative to the Strategic Plan is the work MADL is doing with Hackley Public and White Lake libraries on a new library app and portal. The Director also noted there will be a joint session between MADL, Hackley and White Lake to move forward with the new ILS system.

New Business
B. Hall presented the OPEB Actuarial Rollover Report for 2023. This is a health care plan for grandfathered MADL employees (full-time). The plan continues to be fully funded.

Motion by Hodges, Second by Aerts
That the MADL Board accepts the OPEB Rollover Report from Watkins Ross for 2023.

ROLL CALL
AYES: Hodges, Hughes, Aerts, Simmons, Scolnik
NAYS: None

Public Comment
D. Hughes acknowledged Karla Bates.

Board Comment
L. Simmons said she had a meeting with the Bethlehem Neighborhood association, and they talked about helping MADL with the repair of bikes for the bike program.

Adjournment

Motion by Hodges, Second by Aerts
That the MADL Board adjourns at 4:51 p.m.  
Motion Carried