

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

May 16, 2007

6:30 pm

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chris Hansen who presided called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Present was: Danna Wood-Webb,

Also present were: Opal Brown Lindsay, Acting Director; Carl Green, Mount Vernon Public Library Foundation Willie Lou Gayles, Chief Account Clerk and Mary Harper, Administrative Assistant.

MINUTES:

The approval of the minutes of the meeting of April 18, 2007 was tabled, because the board did not have a quorum.

FINANCIALS:

Willie Lou Gayles discussed the financial statement and the adjusted 2007 budget. Money had been taken from certain line items and moved to others in order to balance the budget.

The validity of the budget was examined. The budget had been balanced but it was evident that there would be a shortfall by the end of the year.

Mrs. Gayles said that the city would not accept a budget that was not balanced. The library had been written up once by the city auditors because it did not present a balanced budget.

It was suggested that the way to present a balanced budget is by cutting costs. The board is not prepared to vote on a budget that does not indicate accurate numbers. Recommendations for additional cuts must be made to indicate the library's legitimate costs. There could be a budget shortfall of about \$200,000.

It was felt that the city would not give the library more money if the library keeps adjusting the budget to indicate it has enough.

A meeting with the City's Comptroller is needed to discuss the reality of the library's needs. Mrs. Gayles said that she would have to revise the adjusted 2007 budget. An accurate assessment of staffing and budget must be presented.

The board inquired how the budget deficit was addressed in the past. The deficit has been a long term issue over the past three to four years. The library must repay the deficit it has accrued over this time.

Mrs. Lindsay and Mrs. Gayles will arrange a meeting with the Comptroller regarding the budget.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary