

Harper Woods Library Board of Trustees Meeting
March 15, 2018

1. Call to Order: 7:00 PM by Board President, Frank Sosnowski
Present: Frank Sosnowski; Treasurer, Mary Beth Kane; Trustees: Elizabeth Campion and Eric Walton; Library Director, Kristen Valyi-Hax
2. Approval of Meeting Agenda: Elizabeth Campion moved to accept. Mary Beth Kane seconded. All in favor.
3. Approval of Minutes from February 15, 2018: Elizabeth Campion moves to accept. Mary Beth Kane seconded. All in favor.
4. Reports:
 - A. Board President's Report: Frank met with Kristen Valyi-Hax on a weekly basis. While there are many small problems, they have been well-handled.
 - B. Treasurer's Report. 2018 reports are not yet available because City Treasurer John Szymanski has been busy with the city audit. There are concerns that the city faces unexpected insurance and pension cost increases which will tighten the 2018 budget further.
 - C. Staff Reports Submitted on paper.
5. Ongoing Business
 - A. Strategic Plan: Kristen Valyi-Hax held four community meetings for Strategic Plan input. She submitted a report and a copy of the meeting handouts on paper.
6. New Business:
 - A. 2019 Federal IMLS Budget. Once again the federal budget cuts monies to IMLS. In Michigan, this funds MeLCat among other things and the loss would be devastating to Michigan libraries. Kristen Valyi-Hax will submit letters to our Senators and Congresswoman. She asks board members to also contact these people on our own to encourage support for keeping IMLS funding.
 - B. City Manager Retirement. Randy Skotarczyk is retiring at the end of the month. Joe Rheker will be the interim City Manager and possible permanent replacement. The board will postpone the plan to meet with the city manager and city treasurer to discuss staff salaries until after Mr. Rheker is in place for a few weeks.
7. Call to Board:
 - A. Elizabeth Campion notes that the Policy Review Committee was not included in Ongoing Business on the agenda and asks that it be included for next month.
 - B. Eric Walton asks how the city is doing. Kristen Valyi-Hax and visitor George Cotton replied that residential revenue is going up as property values are going up. But, commercial revenue is going down particularly due to the loss of businesses in and around Eastland Mall. Mr. Cotton noted that there are some promising developments with Starters Restaurant on Eight Mile, Life Builders, and the relocation of Nona's Pizza.
8. Call to Public: George Cotton present but no further comment.
9. Adjournment: 8:13 PM by Frank Sosnowski