

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
April 24, 2009  
10:00 a.m.**

- Call to Order** Michael O. Smith, Chair, called the meeting of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees to order at 10:04 a.m., on Friday, April 24, 2009, at the Library of Michigan.
- Attendance** **Members Present:**  
B. Denise Bartlett, Barb Bonge (alternate for Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly), Jill Costello (for Senator Tom George), Mark Hoffman, Charles Myers, Nancy Robertson, Nancy Skowronski (*via conference phone*), Michael Smith, Francis "Bus" Spaniola, Representative Jim Stamas
- Members Absent:** Senator Irma Clark-Coleman, Representative Shanelle Jackson, Elaine Logan, Gail Parsons
- Staff Present:** Elaine Harrison, Sheryl Mase, Judith Moore, Lori Poznanski-Mason (recording secretary), Kris Rzepczynski
- Visitors:** Gretchen Couraud, Randy Dykhuis, Jim Seidl
- Welcome** Mike Smith introduced Representative Jim Stamas. Board members introduced themselves.
- Agenda** Nancy noted that Judith's report will be presented prior to the State Librarian's report. A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. THE MOTION WAS MOVED BY FRANCIS "BUS" SPANIOLA AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
- Minutes of February 27, 2009 Meeting** THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2009 MEETING WERE APPROVED UPON MOTION BY MARK HOFFMAN.
- Board Reports**
- Board Chair's** Mike Smith presented the Board Chair report.
- Board Members' Reports** B. Denise Bartlett presented a brief report. There were no other Board reports.
- Legislator Updates** Representative Stamas and Jill Costello, on behalf of Senator Tom George, presented legislator updates.
- Partnership Reports**
- Cooperatives** Jim Seidl, President of the Library Cooperative Director's Association presented the Cooperatives report, which was distributed at the meeting.
- MLA** Gretchen Couraud presented the MLA report, which was distributed at the meeting.
- MLC** Randy Dykhuis presented the MLC report.

**MAME**

The Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME) report was distributed at the meeting.

**State Librarian's Report**

Nancy mentioned that the social security administration is looking to partner with libraries to share information about certain initiatives.

Nancy and team leaders continue to work on a plan for cutting LM's budget.

Elaine Harrison, Director of Public and Technical Services, presented information about the National Library Legislative Day event scheduled for May 11-12, 2009. Librarians meet with Michigan congresspersons or their designees to describe how federal legislation impacts libraries and citizens in their districts. There is an American Library Association legislative briefing day prior to the visits. Elaine coordinates the schedules of the attendees. This year's attendees include: Shirley Bruursema, Susan Gilmore, Jonathon Kinloch, Marcia Warner, Roger Mendel, Sheryl Mase, LM Board member Mike Smith, and Ryan Wieber.

Nancy noted that Carol Fink, Rare Book Librarian, commissioned Martin Frost to create a fore-edge painting on one of the rare books. The book will be displayed at the next Board meeting.

As part of the Board orientation process, various areas of LM will be highlighted at each Board meeting. The recently released Seeking Michigan website and an overview of the Library Development and Data Services (LDDS) division of the Library will be highlighted today.

Kris Rzepczynski gave an overview of the Seeking Michigan website, *seekingmichigan.org*, which is an online destination for Michigan historical and heritage collections. The site, launched on March 17 with over 2,000 hits per day, is unique in that the project combines blogging software with primary source documents. The website is a partnership between LM and the Archives of Michigan and is funded by the Abrams Foundation. Kris will be giving presentations about Seeking Michigan throughout the state.

Sheryl Mase highlighted the work of the LDDS team, which handles continuing education, certification, state aid qualification, Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) federal funds distribution, and state demographics. Sheryl gave an overview of the Michigan electronic Library, MeL, and also reported that the Michigan Reads! Book has been chosen.

A draft agenda for the May 20 Broadband Summit was distributed at the meeting. Sheryl currently serves on the Governor's committee for stimulus-funded broadband.

**LM Foundation  
Report**

Judith reported on the Night for Notables event. Sixteen of twenty authors attended. Over fifty libraries are participating in the author tour in April and May. This tour is unique in the country and is sponsored only with private donations and corporate sponsorships, no state funds. Mike thanked Judith for sending pictures of the Notables event.

Michigan Reads!, another program with sole corporate sponsorship by Target, promotes early childhood programming. About 5,000 kits containing the 2009 Michigan Reads! book and activity materials will be mailed out.

The Museum Adventure Pass program, sponsored solely by Macy's, is in its second year and the Foundation is preparing for a third year, which starts in October. Over 100,000 people have participated. Funding for this program last year came from Macy's Shop for a Cause event in Southeast Michigan. Funding will be used for promotional materials.

A proposal from Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to request funding to digitize their recording studio will be presented at the next LM Foundation Board meeting.

**Old Business**

CHARLES MYERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTIONS FOR DR. WILLIAM ANDERSON AND ROGER ASHLEY. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**New Business**  
**Board Discussion**  
**Items**

Nancy reported to the Board that there have been some discussions with regard to placing the Library of Michigan outside of state government, possibly with Michigan State University. Nancy has been a part of this discussion to describe the duties and priorities of the Library. MSU is expected to make a proposal. At this point, LM continues with business as usual as we wait for news. There is additional added uncertainty because of Michigan revenues. Board members are encouraged to continue to articulate the importance of the Library of Michigan.

Mark Hoffman praised Nancy for the job she is doing, the tone she is setting for the staff, and for her library leadership. The dedicated professionals at the Library of Michigan continue to provide programming.

A question was raised regarding keeping LM as a coherent unit. Mark replied that the message has been strongly conveyed.

The Board reviewed the letter to legislators in support of the Library that was created by Mike Smith, Denise Bartlett, and Elaine Logan. Mike thanked Denise and Elaine for participating on that subcommittee. Mike will finalize the letter to legislators and will contact the appropriations committees.

**2009 Meeting  
Dates**

2009 meeting dates at the Library of Michigan:  
Friday, September 25 at 10:00 a.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Lake Erie Room  
Friday, December 4 at 10:00 a.m. in the 1st floor Lake Erie Room.

**Adjournment**

CHUCK MYERS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED  
AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:03 P.M.

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Michael O. Smith, Chair

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Nancy R. Robertson, State Librarian