

DETROIT LIBRARY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting
October 20, 2009

President Hill called the Regular Meeting of the Detroit Library Commission to order at 1:53 p.m.

Present: President Hill, Commissioners Bellant, Keith, Kinloch, and Thomas

Otis Mathis, Liaison to Detroit Board of Education President

Administrative staff: Mondowney, Cromer, Machie, Moore,
and Norfolk

Excused: Commissioner Washington

Present also: Margaret Bruni, Ron Bryant, Vice President AFSCME 1259, Randy Call, Atiim Funchess, Todd Kelly, President AFSCME 1259, Patrice Merritt, Carolyn Mosley, Uzo Onyemaechi, Rosemary Patterson, Christie Peck, Cledos Powell, Peter Remington, Yvette Rice, Dorothy Williams, Vice President UAW Local 2200.

The minutes of the Re-Scheduled Regular Meeting of September 22, 2009 were adopted as recorded with any necessary corrections to be made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Mondowney reported on the following:

Celebrate Authors Series

In support of the *Teen Read Week Program*, the DPL Friends Foundation donated \$740 to purchase 130 copies of *16 Isn't So Sweet* for branch programming at the Knapp, Duffield, and Redford branches. The author, Cassandra Carter, will be appearing at these branches for a book signing during the month of October.

Authors @ Main 2009 Series

Donna Brazile, political commentator and Vice Chair of the Democratic National Committee, will appear tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Friends Auditorium. She is the author of "Cooking with Grease: Stirring the Pots in American Politics." Ms. Brazile served as the presidential campaign manager for former Vice President Al

Gore. The *Washingtonian* named Ms. Brazile as one of the “100 Most Powerful Women” and *Essence* named her one of the “Top 50 Women in America.”

Exhibits

The People (Photo Exhibit)

Photographs of Andre McWilliams featuring black and white portraits of everyday people photographed throughout Metro Detroit. This exhibit will be on display until January 15, 2010.

So I Come to America (Photo Exhibit)

On display through December, these photos depict stories of immigrants that came to Detroit in the Pre-World War I era. Thousands of immigrants came from Europe and settled in Detroit during this time.

HYPE

A Halloween Masquerade Ball is scheduled for Friday evening on October 30th. Teens are invited to dress in costume. Last year’s ball was a great success.

Donation

The Oliver Dewey Marcks Foundation sent a check for \$10,000. There are no restrictions on these funds; the Oliver Dewey Marcks Trustees do not want this counted as part of general funds.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Hill read the thank you note she received from Barbara Martin, recently retired DPL Coordinator for Programs and Community Outreach, thanking Commission for their thoughtfulness.

COMMITTEE ON BOOKS & LITERACY

Approval of Chair and Membership Terms for the Detroit Literacy Council

Commissioner Kinloch reported that a membership slate for the Detroit Literacy Council was approved at the June 16, 2009 Detroit Library Commission meeting. The membership slate listed below reflects 21 members who have agreed to serve on the Literacy Council, to assist the library in achieving its strategic literacy objectives.

The resolution approved by the Detroit Library Commission on May 29, 2009, requires that:

- The Detroit Library Commission shall appoint annually the Chairperson for the Detroit Literacy Council.
- That the members of the Detroit Literacy Council serve a staggered three-year term.

It is the recommendation of the Books and Literacy Committee to appoint *Rev. Dr. Georgia A. Hill* to serve as the Chair of the Detroit Literacy Council. It is also the recommendation of the Books and Literacy Committee to appoint *David Stephen* to serve as Vice Chair of the Detroit Literacy Council. It is the recommendation of the Books and Literacy Committee to approve the membership terms for the Detroit Literacy Council as listed below.

DETROIT LITERACY COUNCIL SLATE

2009 – December 2010:

Sr. Janice Brown
Ms. Eumiller Corbitt
Dr. Clarence Nixon
Rev. Lonnie Peek
Ms. Alberta Tinsley Talabi
Dr. Marcella Wilson

2009 – December 2011:

Ms. Jean-Vierre Adams
Ms. Karen Dumas
Mr. Victor Green
Mr. Andrew McLemore
Ms. Patrice Merritt
Ms. Donna Nesbitt
Mr. Heaster Wheeler

2009 – December 2012:

Rev. Georgia Hill
Mr. Brandon Jessup
Ms. Karen Love
Ms. Sharon Madison-Polk
Dr. Daphne Ntiri
Ms. Carole Jasper Quarterman
Mr. David Stephen
Ms. Margaret Williamson

Commission Actions

1. Commissioner Kinloch moved to approve the Chair, Vice Chair and membership terms for the Detroit Literacy Council as recommended by the Books and Literacy Committee. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried.
2. Commissioner Kinloch moved to approve asking *Joyce Hayes-Giles* to serve as the Honorary Chair and to send a thank you letter to the Mayor for his consideration. (The Mayor was asked to serve as Honorary Chair

but was unable to accept.) Commissioner Bellant seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Programs Report

Church Literacy Program:

Commissioner Kinloch reported that a pilot program to introduce and sustain adult literacy programs in Detroit churches was approved by the Detroit Library Commission on June 23, 2009. The program is expected to work with 15 churches, with a desired outcome of producing 10 new learners per church congregation, within a six-month period. Eight churches have signed up for the literacy program and two volunteer tutor-training programs were held at the library in August and September. A third training program is scheduled for October 21, 22 and 24.

Major Literacy Grant Awarded to DPL

Commissioner Kinloch reported that the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation have approved a grant of \$866,000 to the Detroit Public Library for a technology, literacy and career center at the Parkman Branch. The grant award includes funding for broadband & technology infrastructure, computers, printers, program software and wireless infrastructure to expand access beyond library buildings. The grant includes literacy tutoring, programs & partnerships as well as staffing to increase library hours.

Discussion on Knight Foundation Grant

Commissioner Keith commended Ms. Machie for her work done on the Knight Foundation Grant. President Hill inquired about timelines and if the particulars of the grant were on hand. Commissioner Kinloch felt it was important to understand and fulfill the Library's commitment to the Knight Foundation and suggested a special commission meeting be held to discuss this grant. Mrs. Mondowney explained there was a need to clear up matters on our commitment. President Hill agreed that Commission must discuss and understand DPL's commitments; a policy might need to be developed on grant procedures.

Ms. Machie said the Knight Foundation needs a response from the Library prior to its November 4, 2009 press conference.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Routine Report on Finance

The following accounts have been examined and found correct by the staff of Financial and Business Operations and ratification of payment is recommended.

Summary of Expenditures	
<u>PUBLIC FUNDS</u>	
Program Expenditures-Total checks 1050-1069	\$40,843.70
Capital Improvement-total checks 1007-1010	\$173,843.55
Total vouchers 307-552	\$1,436,964.94
Total payroll & benefits	\$3,030,487.72
Grand Total	<u>\$4,682,139.91</u>

Summary of Expenditures	
<u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	
Burton checks 8036-8038	\$872.42
Louise Webber O'Brien checks 4065-4066	\$985.00
Branch and Main checks 1296-1309	\$8,507.65
Program and Gifts checks 1191-1200	\$5,700.14
Grand Total	<u>\$16,065.21</u>

Maria Norfolk, Associate Director
Financial and Business Operations

Payment approved by the Committee on Finance.

New Business

Commission Action

Commissioner Kinloch moved to approve having the Vice President of the Detroit Library Commission write a letter to the President of the Detroit Board of Education recommending the re-appointment of Rev. Dr. Georgia A. Hill to the Detroit Library Commission. President Hill was undecided; therefore, no vote was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.