

DETROIT LIBRARY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

Special Meeting  
October 27, 2009

President Hill called the Special Meeting of the Detroit Library Commission to order at 4:45 p.m.

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

Otis Mathis, Liaison to Detroit Board of Education President

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

Present also: Margaret Bruni, Randy Call, Atiim Funchess, Patrice Merritt, Carolyn Mosley, Uzo Onyemaechi, Rosemary Patterson, Cledos Powell, and Yvette Rice

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Knight Foundation Grant

Mrs. Mondowney reported that a Committee on Buildings meeting was held on October 13, 2009 at the Parkman Branch. The application for the grant from the Knight Foundation was done in July. Details needed to be discussed concerning timeline, sustainability and a plan needed to be developed identifying partners, level of training and what would be promised to the Parkman Branch community.

Since the COB meeting, Mrs. Mondowney has made contact with the Knight Foundation and Ms. Machie has consulted with Facilities. The components of the grant are for Technology, Literacy & a Career Center with extended library hours. Ms. Machie explained since a training center already exists at Parkman on the first floor, Mr. Powell came up with a plan for what needs to be done to accommodate the grant's terms and conditions. Tutoring spaces would need to be introduced.

Ms. Machie said the Knight Foundation has a press conference set for November 4<sup>th</sup> to name the grant recipients. Mrs. Mondowney said after she spoke with Brenda Price from the Knight Foundation, Ms. Price agreed to modify the terms of the grant agreement by extending the time for an extra year to October 2011.

Since asphalt cannot be laid until the spring, the extension on time was critical for completion of a parking lot.

President Hill and Commissioner Thomas inquired about the Library's financial commitment. Ms. Machie handed out a budget but indicated she was still looking at the investment the Library would need to make but confirmed \$500,000 would need to be invested in the structure.

The Parkman Branch was picked because the State was interested in introducing six literacy centers in Detroit and the Focus Hope area is being targeted for improvement and going wireless.

Mrs. Mondowney noted that in about seven months, the project could be announced. She thanked Ms. Machie for her work on obtaining the grant and she said that it is quite an honor to receive such an amount. Commissioner Kinloch also thanked everyone for pulling together.

The next steps are to revise the award letter, remove the Friends name, and meet with Brenda Price on Monday, November 2, 2009.

#### Commission Action

Commissioner Kinloch moved to accept the grant from the Knight Foundation and directed staff to forward an itemized budget and an appropriation request to the Commission as soon as practical. Commissioner Bellant seconded. The motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.