

DETROIT LIBRARY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 18, 2011

President Thomas called the Regular Meeting of the Detroit Library Commission to order at 1:51 p.m.

Present: President Thomas, Commissioners Bellant, Hicks, Jackson, Kinloch, Quarterman, and Annie Carter, Representative for Ex-Officio Tyrone Winfrey

Administrative Staff: Executive Director Mondowney, Cromer, Machie, Moore and Norfolk

Present Also: Mylika Adorno, Corey Anderson, D. Baxter, Benita Beckles, Kevin Bolden, Lamont Bolding, Joan Brand, Lou Brock, Orelia E. Brown, Margaret Bruni, Richard Bryant, Ronald Bryant, Loretta Burn, Lenarda Collin, Dallas Carrier, Sharon Carrier, John Chambers, Franklin Clements, Gertrude Cherry, Gary Cooper, Linda Cooper, Tanya Covington, Maggie DeSantis, Carolyn Dupose, Matthew Eaves, Cherylita Feagin, Karen Feagin, Lawanda Felder, Patricia Ford, Julie Fornell, Atiim Funchess, Dr. Mary L. Gaskins, Valerie Glenn, Thelma Hall, J.W. Henderson, Augustus O. Hill, Eddie Mae Johnson, C. Lovett, Mike McElgunn, Barbara Martin, Patrice Merritt, Dill Moon II, Carolyn Mosley, Peggy Nobel, Danielle Nortin, Uzo Onyemaechi, Nancy Orr, Marlena Padgett, Father Ted Parker, Rosemary Patterson, Pat Pernell-Shelton, Jasmine Phillips, Cledos Powell, Deborah Quinn, Dale Rai, David Rambeau, Harold Renfroe, Jeffery Robinson, Karol J. Rogers, Bob Sanders, Anna Savvides, Harold T. Sawyers, Leslie Shellie, Alma Simmons, Tiffani Simon, Brenda Standerfer, Rochella Steward, Laurie Stuart, Gregory Tait, Steve Teeri, Tim Tompkins, Shirley Tripp, Harvey Turner, Gerald Underwood, Darlene Vance, April Vonder, Ronald Walden, Oravay Walton, M. Joyce Wells, Elizabeth M. Williams, Karen Wilson, Francis Worthy, Ken Wyatt, Tracey Wyatt, and others

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 20, 2011 were approved with any necessary corrections to be made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS—Branch Closures

President Thomas read three letters that were sent to the Commission regarding the four proposed branch closures.

- 1) A letter from *Frank Travis* urged the Commission to keep Chandler Park Branch open as he is a frequent customer.
- 2) *Brenda M. Burton* wrote in regards to Chase Branch “The Library is a learning institution that stabilizes the neighborhood and is worth fighting for its existence to remain in the community.”
- 3) *State Representative Maureen L. Stapleton’s* letter thanked Judge Thomas for his continued service on the Detroit Library Commission. She encouraged the Commission to find resources to maintain service at the Mark Twain Annex.

*Franklin Clements* was disappointed to have given the Library his tax dollars that were suppose to keep the libraries open for 10 years. Libraries are used as a resource for students to get their homework done.

*J.W. Henderson*, President Riverbend Community Association, indicated there were a number of people from his side of town that were interested in keeping all branches open. He asked for the anticipated savings from closing branch buildings and if none are anticipated, why would they be closed down. Empty buildings still have to be maintained. He had collected 800 signatures from those who use the Library.

*Shirley Trip*, member of the Cardoni Block Club, said the library means a lot to her and it is always crowded and well utilized.

*Apryl Voner* was from St. Cecilia School. She said the area around Richard Branch is already blighted and feared it would worsen by closing the branch.

*Dr. Jeffrey R. Robinson*, Pastor, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, asked that more consideration be given before closing Mark Twain Annex. He said illiteracy needs addressing. Students stand in line to use the computers. Keep Mark Twain Annex open for the children of the community.

*Lenarda Collier*, St. Cecilia Heights Council, said there are over 12,000 students in the 48204 zip code and in the summertime, 600 students from the church use the Richard Branch. Many people use the library to find jobs. It is essential to keep it open.

*Father Ted Parker*, St. Cecilia Church, felt the library was a place for culture and the mind. He asked the Commission how he could persuade them to get the money to keep Richard Branch open. The life of the mind is essential. Richard Branch is important to the community; all great civilizations have had libraries.

*Minutes approved at the November 15, 2011 DLC Meeting.*

*Jasmine Phillips*, Vice President, A-4-Kazoku Club, has used the Skillman Branch for the past two years along with the other 35 club members. She wanted the branch to stay open on Saturdays. (Mrs. Mondowney explained that Skillman was not closing.)

*Maggie DeSantis*, Warren Conner Development Coalition, said library services should not disappear. She suggested thinking a different way by working together to find solutions. Detroit is changing library service should not be sacrificed. She and her daughter are avid users of the library. Ms. DeSantis suggested separating the building from library service so that library service could be provided in different locations such as a leased space. She asked to work with the coalition to find creative and alternative ways for service.

*Lamont Bolding*, spoke on behalf of Lincoln Branch. He said as we move forward in time, computers are required. Computer access is important and that the Lincoln Branch has a good staff that welcomes everyone. They are patient and helpful and make you feel comfortable and confident.

*Gerald Underwood*, Hawthorne Park Neighborhood Association, said the neighborhood near Lincoln Branch uses the library and he does not want to see it close. Both young and old use and need Lincoln Branch to stay open.

*David Rambeau* stated once again that the Commission meeting did not start on time. He said the Commission does not listen, never responds, and never has answers or solutions. People want solutions, not silence.

*Harvey Turner*, Hull Street Block Club and an advocate for Lincoln Branch, said he had asked people if they would be willing to pay more in millage to keep it open. 91% said yes and 9% did not know but no one said no. He mentioned there is a new influx of immigrants. The community has lost a recreation center and the neighborhood city hall. Lincoln Branch now has air conditioning and other improvements were done over the summer, so now is not the time to close it. He said the Library needs to ask for more money.

*Orelia E. Brown*, Womens Conference of Concerns, member of Riverbend Community, former employee of Department of Corrections, said five generations of her family have gone to the Monteith Branch. She suggested using closed school buildings for a library. Four libraries closing on the east side is unacceptable.

*Linda Cooper* asked all those present in support of Monteith to stand up. She agreed with Mr. Henderson that if no money is saved, why close. Monteith has the lowest costs. She questioned the accuracy of the information handed out a previous committee meeting showing staff savings. She suggested tapping into other resources such as U of M, Chrysler or a historical society. She asked to let

these organizations come to the table and allow the community to see what it can do before deciding to close it.

*Pastor Gary L. Cooper* urged the Commission to reconsider closing Richard Branch, especially for the sake of the children. He said sometimes people in authority do not look at the whole picture to see the affects on people or do not understand their feelings unless they are in the same place. He asked Commission to let the community work together.

*Mylika Adorno* does not want to see Monteith close. The library is important to her and her young daughter. Children can work on projects, do reports and research.

*Kevin Bolden*, Atmospheric Training Academy LLC, said in the past he had experience working with 30 homeless women and children. The Library was instrumental in providing services to those children. Monteith is like family, a place to meet, learn and even become better citizens.

*Valerie Glenn*, Riverbend Community Association, was saddened by Monteith closing because when you start to close libraries like the Germans did, it is symbolic. The library was a big part of her world growing up.

*Francis Worthy* compared a business plan to having a strategy. She wanted to know if the Library had an exit strategy. What would be done with the buildings? She felt there was not any vision or innovative thoughts in the plans proposed. She asked for a date when Commission would get back to the community.

*Dr. Mary L. Gaskins*, Keep It Moving, Inc., thanked the Mark Twain Annex staff for all their help. As a result of the reading program at Mark Twain, MEAP scores have increased. The staff has gone into the schools and enrolled students with library cards. Librarian Regina Smith has built Mark Twain Annex up from nothing and even established a children's section. The Library is an institution and also serves as a safe haven for the children. These contributions have made a significant difference. She asked Commissioners to look at statistics.

*Marlena Padgett* asked to reconsider closing Monteith Branch. She and her five-year old daughter both love to read. She doesn't want to see her daughter grow up without a library.

*M. Joyce Wells*, Chandler Park Neighborhood Association, said she agreed with comments made by others. She suggested developing partnerships. She said she knows that the computers are utilized all day at Chandler Park as many people in the community do not have computers.

*Thelma Hall* submitted a comment form emphasizing the importance of the Monteith Branch. She wondered why City Council did not allocate enough money to keep it open.

*Bill Moon* submitted a comment form pleading to not close the Monteith Branch. He wrote the neighborhood is economically starved and the Library is too important to the community to close.

#### Discussion following the Public Comments

Commissioner Bellant asked if a summary response could be given on some of the issues brought up during the public comments. President Thomas made it clear that the topic of branch closures had been ongoing since last March. Commission has heard many, many public comments and has had multiple public forums. He assured those in attendance that none of the Commissioners wanted to vote to close branches. However, the harsh reality is that the Library does not have the dollars nor will it have the funds in the next year because property taxes have not been paid. President Thomas said he personally understood the sadness and frustration felt by everyone. He then reminded everyone that we *still* have Main Library and 19 other branches available that are just a few miles away.

Commissioner Kinloch referenced the initial reductions which had started as high as 18 branch closures. We have been back and forth on this issue and have talked about ways to address this financial catastrophe we are in. We do not want to close branches. Doing nothing is not the answer. We are putting a burden on staff.

Commissioner Kinloch said he disagreed with someone who said they are not talking about closing libraries in Bloomfield Hills and other communities because they are talking about it all over the country. As a member of the American Library Association, he serves on the Committee on Legislation. The American Jobs Act does have money for school libraries but not for public libraries. He had asked the government relations office what could be done to include public libraries and was told there would not be any money for public libraries. Commissioner Kinloch said he has spoken to legislators and asked why revenues from casinos did not help support public libraries. Discussions have been held during committee meetings about contacting legislators.

Commissioner Jackson said churches do not pay taxes in the same way and suggested when tithing maybe 50 cents could be designated for the local branch. Commissioner Jackson said he had recently mentioned in a committee meeting about possibly partnering with Eastern Michigan and U of M's School of Library Science using those branches as an urban setting if they were interested. Commissioner Jackson offered to hear anybody's creative ideas to keep the branches open and assured everyone that the Commission is not callous. Our

budget has had a hole blown in it because the City took \$9.2 million from the Library.

Commissioner Kinloch noted that the attorneys are looking into the matter for the Library. He explained the Library has always operated within its budget and had a fund balance until the City took the money. Commissioner Kinloch acknowledged that he has heard some good ideas; however, when the layoffs happened, it was understood that branch closures were inevitable.

Commissioner Hicks felt today's meeting could easily be the same as any other meeting around the City or State. Everyone has the same interests for the Library. He reminded everyone that Commissioners are volunteers and finger pointing needs to stop and they are not the enemy. The Library does not have enough resources to operate the system as it is now. He said a decision has to be made but felt it was best to have another meeting such as a community conference to hear ideas.

President Thomas asked Commissioner Hicks to discuss his meeting suggestion under new business, according to Commission rules. Mrs. Mondowney was to respond to Commissioner Bellant's request for a summary.

Mrs. Mondowney offered to consolidate the information regarding some of the things we have done that clarify how we got to this point. She indicated that some of the questions were answered in previous forums. Mrs. Mondowney said that staff has thought outside the box in many ways. We looked at areas across the country and benchmarked those places where, just as Ms. DeSantis had said, have services as opposed to a place or building. She said models from across the country were reviewed. Mrs. Mondowney was aware that there is not a library you can go into where people are not using it. Technology has made DPL more relevant. Economically, if we do not make decisions, they will be made by default.

Commissioner Bellant wanted to correct something someone had said earlier. He has never been an advocate of increased expenses, but is an advocate of controlling expenses while increasing revenue to the Library. He has been an advocate for a supplemental millage although very few people have rallied to that cause. Commissioner Bellant said we have a 30% drop in revenue and we have to look at the revenue side as that is the only way we will be able to sustain. Although we do have to pay utilities on the buildings, the problem is we laid off 82 people last spring and the staff has been stretched. Commissioner Bellant offered to take phone calls and talk with anyone who wanted to talk to him personally about the situation.

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Because of the lengthy public comment portion of the meeting, President Thomas did not make a report.

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Mondowney's report was accepted as written. Mrs. Mondowney's report followed:

### Award for the Burton Historical Collection

The Historical Society of Michigan presented the *State History Award* to the Detroit Public Library for its outstanding preservation of the Burton Historical Collection. Mrs. Mondowney thanked Patrice Merritt for nominating the Library for this award. The award was presented on September 23, 2011 in Traverse City during the 137<sup>th</sup> annual meeting and State History Conference. Ms. Merritt accepted the award on behalf of the Library.

### DPL Friends Foundation

Mrs. Mondowney thanked the Friends, once again, for their ongoing and much appreciated support. Recently two donations were received from the Friends.

- \$500 donation for the Family History Festival that was held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> in Burton Historical Collection
- \$186.25 donation for the purchase of books for the National Automotive History Collection

### DVDs Donation

The Detroit Public Library was one of several charities to receive movie DVDs donated by Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment. On Thursday, October 13, its *Million Moments: Great Moments, Great Causes* mobile van tour stopped at DPL. The tour van has visited 10 other cities with seven more to go with plans to give away a million DVDs. The van was used as a stage and dressing room for those who wished to be filmed doing favorite scenes from FOX films. The event concluded with a presentation of certificates from Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh. For more information, visit <http://greatmomentsgreatcauses.com>.

### Staff Development Day—"Planning and Rejuvenation"

Staff Development Day was held on September 28, 2011 and based on staff's feedback the day was a success. A variety of planned meetings, activities and workshops were held throughout the system (e.g. CPR recertification, team building, goal setting, motivational speakers and how-to videos).

### Author Events at Detroit Public Library

Mrs. Mondowney responded to the inquiries regarding the author event held on October 19, 2011 at the Main Library. The following statement was posted on DPL's website:

"The Detroit Public Library (DPL) subscribes to the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights which states that libraries are forums for information and ideas, and also that materials should not be excluded because of the views of those contributing to them. Likewise, DPL programming provides library users with additional opportunities for information, consideration, analysis and discussion of materials in the library's collection.

On October 19, DPL will present Khary Kimani Turner, author of *Surrendered: The Fall and Revelation of Kwame Kilpatrick*. The co-author, former Mayor Kilpatrick, will appear via Skype. This event will allow the citizens of Detroit to hear a perspective about a difficult period in the history of the city, and for the audience members to share their opinions with the authors. It is in no way a DPL endorsement of any point of view.

Author events hosted by the DPL are considered open forums for our community to interact with the writer. Library staff sometimes invites authors to appear at the Library based on requests from the public, relevance of topic or theme, popularity, etc.

In addition, some authors may offer to appear without cost to the Library. For example, this was the case for Isabel Wilkerson, author of the number one New York Times bestseller, *The Warmth of Other Suns*. It is also the case for Khary Kimani Turner and Mr. Kilpatrick—DPL is not paying either author to appear.

The usual format for an author visit allows the author(s) to talk about the book and the creative process, followed by a question and answer period with the audience. After the Q & A, the audience may purchase the book and have it signed by the author. Over the years booksellers have included Barnes & Noble, Book Beat and the Shrine of the Black Madonna Bookstore. While *Surrendered* will be available for purchase, audience members are not required to purchase the book.

Library promotional materials for an author event frequently use publicity material and language provided by the publisher. Such usage should not be considered an endorsement by the Library.

A cornerstone of public libraries is a commitment to free and open access to information and ideas, as well as to free speech. The Detroit Public Library embraces this cornerstone as the foundation of its mission in providing library services and programs to the Detroit community."

Overpayment to City of Detroit

Legal counsel has begun discussions with representatives from the City of Detroit regarding the recent \$9.2 million reduction in property tax revenue due to the Library.

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

Approval of Human Resources Office Report

Commissioner Kinloch reported that the Human Resources Office Report indicates personnel actions for new hires, separations, and retirements. These actions have been approved by administration.

RETIREMENTS

Yvonne Thurmond, effective October 19, 2011

Carolyn Burgess-McCormick, effective October 14, 2011

Commission Action

On the motion of Commissioner Kinloch and seconded by Commissioner Bellant, the personnel action report was unanimously adopted.

Approval is requested to Close Four Library Branches

Commissioner Kinloch reported the Reduction in Workforce (RIF), implemented by DPL on March 17, 2011, has had a significant impact on library services. Branch Libraries and Main are significantly understaffed for both librarians and support staff. The current staffing level places an undue burden on staff and is negatively affecting customer service:

- Sporadic branch closures have happened since then due to the inadequacy of staffing to accommodate service hours
- Inadequate staffing levels at most locations to support service
- Inability of staff to conduct outreach at schools and community events

With cooperation from both UAW and AFSCME bargaining units, we have tweaked some work practices to provide us some flexibility to do more. As a result, we are able to reduce the number of branches presented for closure to four.

The following recommendations were proposed to close four branch locations effective November 23, 2011:

Lincoln	1221 E. Seven Mile/Russell
Mark Twain	4741 Iroquois
Monteith	14100 Kercheval/Eastlawn
Richard	9876 Grand River/Stoepel

- ✓ A detailed description and profile for each branch recommended for closure was provided.
- ✓ A timeline for actions leading up to and immediately following the branch closures was provided.

### Discussion

Commissioner Hicks revisited his earlier suggestion to hold one more meeting with the communities so that the back and forth questions would stop. President Thomas appreciated Commissioner Hicks compassion, but reiterated we have had many public meetings where the entire City was invited. We have also had meetings with people from the Mark Twain Annex, the Fenmore Block Club from Chase, Monteith, and Lincoln as well as public comments heard at committee meetings. President Thomas added that we have heard from Dr. Rambeau numerous times and he doesn't agree with everything he said because Dr. Rambeau has asked for things that he has gotten. He pointed out that Commission did meet every single month over the summer and all meetings were posted.

President Thomas was concerned about the staff continuing to be stretched. He said we can't keep burning out the staff; to delay any further, is a disservice to us and the staff that are on the front lines.

Commissioner Hicks still felt it was best to look at the issues one more time in a meeting. Commissioner Quarterman felt the emphasis should be to move forward but the problem is the proposal does not say what we will do for servicing those communities whether there is a building or not . She said her commitment is to provide service. She did not feel we should leave children and services dangling and that saying we have other branches is not enough. Closing the branches is not the end of it. She understands that financing will continue to shrink and this is a painful journey but we have to find solutions. She explained that we must think creatively to find a way to service our children and our families in these communities perhaps through partnerships with churches, schools or business leaders. She suggested using the passion from the people in the room to serve as a way to come up with a vehicle to provide service.

### Commission Action

Commissioner Kinloch moved to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to close Lincoln, Mark Twain, Monteith, and Richard Branches, effective November 23, 2011. Commissioner Bellant seconded the motion; the motion failed with three yes votes and three no votes.

### Comments

Commissioner Bellant was troubled as it appeared that we have consistently put the staff under the bus. Staff have been through a lot and have been continually stretched. Practically, nobody showed up when their jobs for 82 people were laid off; no one expressed concern for the staff. There seems to be an insensitivity

towards staff and not respecting staff and that is a mistake. President Thomas agreed 100%.

Commissioner Kinloch said making a decision has been postponed repeatedly and some Commissioners have not attended meetings. Some Commissioners have diligently pushed hard to get the numbers reduced to just the four branches.

#### Commission Action

Commissioner Hicks agreed that staff has been stretched but was concerned with how to resolve the issue. He moved that one more and final meeting be held to allow a community exchange within the next 30 days. The meeting should be designed to engage the citizens and to discuss strategically the future of the Library for charting its future. There was no support for the motion.

#### Authorization to Adjust Skillman Library Hours

Commissioner Kinloch, as Chair of the Committee on Administration, took the prerogative of removing this item from the agenda and referring it back to the Committee on Administration for further review. He thought it would give the Executive Director time to speak to the person who voiced concerns about Skillman closing on Saturdays. President Thomas respected his request.

### COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS

#### Request to Pay Adamo Demolition Company for Additional Asbestos Abatement at Mark Twain Branch Library

Commissioner Bellant reported that Adamo Demolition Company informed the Library's Facilities Department that additional regulated asbestos containing materials (RACMs) was discovered when they started the abatement of the branch basement. The items that require additional asbestos abatement are as follows:

- 4,000 lineal feet of pipe insulation located within the basement crawl space
- 1,200 square feet of asbestos containing plaster co-mingled with debris/garbage on the basement floor

These materials were not included in the original asbestos survey provided at the time of the bid.

Adamo will provide all necessary labor, equipment, materials, insurance, legal transportation and disposal of RACMs identified above. The work will be performed in accordance with applicable regulations and procedures as they relate to Class I and Class II removal.

Commission Action

Commissioner Bellant moved to approve payment to Adamo Demolition Company for the additional asbestos abatement at the Mark Twain Branch Library. The amount of the payment is not to exceed forty seven thousand one hundred twenty five dollars (\$47,125). The funds will come from the Facilities Department 2011/2012 Operating Budget. Commissioner Kinloch seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Request to Purchase Furniture for Children’s Library

Commissioner Bellant reported that the Old Browsing Library, located in the North Wing of Main Library, has been restored to provide the Children’s Library with a much needed larger space. To accommodate the growing needs of DPL’s younger customers, new furniture, technology and library support supplies are needed for this new space.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was mailed to catalog companies that provide library furniture and accompanying supplies. The RPF was also posted on the Library’s website. The results are as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Gaylord Brothers	\$22,743
Brodart	\$14,441.63 (Bid on 1/3 of the RFP)

Bids were not received from the following companies:

- Highsmith (No longer supports installations)
- Demco
- Office Express
- Arrow Office Supply

Commission Action

Commissioner Bellant moved to approve contracting with Gaylord Brothers for the purchase of furniture for Children’s Library. The amount of the contract is not to exceed twenty two thousand seven hundred forty three dollars (\$22,743). Items will be purchased using funds donated for Children’s Library by the Links organization, in the Friends Foundation custody. Commissioner Kinloch seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Authorization to Purchase Video Game Fixtures for the Children’s Library at Main Library

Commissioner Bellant reported that plans are underway for the Children’s Library to relocate to the Old Browsing area. The Facilities Department has completed minor renovations to the space to make it appealing and inviting to children. Interactive video and computer games are included as part of the offerings and attractions at the new Children’s Library.

Video Game consoles like the Xbox 360, PS3 and Nintendo Wii, are housed in innovative kiosks with large computer monitors for group play and competitions. Research by library staff could only find one video game kiosk vendor, Meridian, who was authorized to outfit a non-retail operation.

Meridian Kiosks has worked with the Detroit Public Library in the past, for the installation and maintenance of video game kiosks at the Piston’s Teen Center at the Redford Branch and at the HYPE Center at Main Library.

The following video game kiosk configuration is proposed for the Children’s Library:

Three (3) Monarch Media Stations with 17” and 42” monitors at \$7,568.93 each, \$22,706.79 total.

Commission Action

Commissioner Bellant moved to approve purchasing three video game kiosks and monitors as outlined above, from Meridian Kiosks, at a price not to exceed \$22,706.79. The costs include product, delivery, setup and training. Items will be purchase using funds donated for the Children’s Library in DPL’s custody. Commisisoner Quarterman seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Authorization to Purchase an Interactive Floor Technology for the Children’s Library at Main Library

Commissioner Bellant reported that plans are underway for the Children’s Library to relocate to the Old Browsing area. The Facilities Department has completed minor renovations to the space to make it appealing and inviting to children. An Interactive Floor Technology (IFT) is proposed as part of the offerings and attractions at the new Children’s Library. This innovative technology will provide an exciting and dynamic learning experience for our children.

Library staff contacted the following vendors to review their product offerings:

- <http://www.snibbeinteractive.com/>
- [http://www.gesturetek.com/gesturefx/productsolutions\\_groundfx.php](http://www.gesturetek.com/gesturefx/productsolutions_groundfx.php)
- <http://www.touchmagix.com/Interactive-Floor.html>
- [http://www.eyeclick.com/products\\_500.html](http://www.eyeclick.com/products_500.html)

Only one vendor had the most comprehensive, interactive educational software package and the willingness to provide DPL with software templates for creating additional programs.

The proposed IFT and software offers 30 interactive games plus 10 customizable templates for DPL to create additional experiences for children. The costs include:

Software	\$12,300
Projector & Mount	\$1,000
Installation & Training	\$1,750

Shipping \$100

Commission Action

Commissioner Bellant moved to approve purchasing an Interactive Floor Technology for the Children’s Library as detailed in the specifications, at a cost not to exceed \$15,150. Items will be purchase using funds donated for the Children’s Library in DPL’s custody. Commissioner Kinloch seconded; the motion carried.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Commissioner Hicks, Chair, Committee on Finance, excused himself prior to the finance reports.

Routine Reports on Finance

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

Summary of Expenditures September and October 2011	
<b><u>PUBLIC FUNDS</u></b>	
Total Payroll & Benefits	\$4,544,934.14
Total Vouchers 1 - 175	<u>\$ 786,159.15</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u>\$5,331,093.29</u></b>

Summary of Expenditures September and October 2011	
<b><u>Restricted/Designated Funds</u></b>	
Branch & Main Checking – Checks 1798 - 1852	\$ 9,418.87
Burton Endowment Fund Checking – Checks 8161 - 8168	\$17,808.97
Knight Foundation grant – Checks 1223 - 1290	\$38,634.70
Louise Webber O’Brien Fund – Checks 4191 - 4192	\$ 270.00
Programs & Gifts Checking – Checks 1486 - 1515	<u>\$28,424.41</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u>\$94,556.95</u></b>

Commission Action

On motion of Commissioner Kinloch, the recommendation of the Committee on Finance as set forth above was unanimously adopted.

## OLD BUSINESS

### *Branch Closures*

Commissioner Quarterman said she needed to clarify her vote on the branch closures; she said that the four branches are still on top of the list for closures. She said she should have amended Commissioner Hicks' motion. Another meeting should be to afford an opportunity for representatives that have spoken so passionately today to present their plans for what happens in the way of maintaining services. The proposal for closing the branches does not include or indicate a service plan for the community.

### Commission Action

Commissioner Quarterman moved that the Committee on Administration meet with community representatives for the four branches that are still being considered for closure to discuss, in detail and with some specificity, the plan for maintaining services for the communities that those branches serve. Commissioner Kinloch suggested it happen within the next two weeks. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion; the motion carried.

### *Question Answered*

At the September 20, 2011 Commission meeting, Anna Savvides asked how much had been saved through layoffs. Mr. Cromer said the Library realized a \$3.2 million savings towards its deficit leaving around a \$6 million deficit. Ms. Savvides suggested reexamining the planning that was done 15 years ago looking forward to now. There have been enormous amounts of thinking and money spent on reformulating this library. All is available to the Commission so why not look at it. President Thomas said we certainly will do that.

## Executive Session

President Thomas canceled the Executive Session and indicated that it would be rescheduled.

There being no further business to come before the meeting; the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.