

**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

- 01.17.01 A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Board of Library Trustees of the Arlington Heights Memorial Library **CONVENED** at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, in the Board Room of the Arlington Heights Memorial Library.

Upon **ROLL CALL**, the following answered Present: Trustees Brody Garkisch, Thanopoulos, Unumb, Zyck, and Smart. Trustee Nelson participated in the meeting by telephone due to a family emergency.

Absent: Trustee Medal.

Also present: Jason Kuhl, Executive Director; Jeremy Andrykowski, Deputy Director; Mike Driskell, Director of Administration; Diane Schultz, Director of Human Resources; Deb Whisler, Director of Communications and Marketing; Michael Kelly, Director of Finance; Janet Moravec, Business Office Administrator; Karen Ann Cullotta, Chicago Tribune; Chris Placek, Daily Herald.

- 01.17.02 There was no **PUBLIC COMMENT**.

Trustee Medal joined the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

- 01.17.03 **RECOMMENDATION ON NORTHSIDE BRANCH (Action Item 1)** – For several years, staff have been studying the feasibility of opening a branch library location in the northern part of the village. A key aspect of this comprehensive study has been to identify the real costs of opening, furnishing, and operating such a facility. Though staff believes a library facility north of Palatine Road would be well used and would enhance the overall library service to the village as a whole, it is staff's assessment that the ongoing costs would limit the possibility of future service enhancements to a degree that they do not recommend proceeding with opening a branch at this time.

After discussion, the committee agreed with staff's recommendation to not move forward with opening a branch library facility at this time. President Smart read a summary statement: "To sum up this discussion and the work that has occurred over the past few years on this topic, we learned a great many things about areas of need throughout the village that we must move forward on finding ways to address. This process highlights why we are a 5-star library: 1) that we are continually on the lookout for ways to improve service and make the library meaningful and relevant for all of our residents; and 2) that we do our due diligence and consider all aspects of a project before moving forward. I am tremendously proud of this effort and want to thank both the staff and my fellow trustees for all of the time that we have put into this study. In the end, it comes down to the fact that the ongoing cost of operating a

branch in the spaces currently available in the village would be too great, particularly under the shadow of the uncertainty of the state budget. By not committing ourselves to these fixed, ongoing costs, we are in a better position to address the new needs that will surely arise as the demographics of our village continue to change.”

Trustee Medal moved **THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ACCEPTS THE STAFF’S RECOMMENDATION NOT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OPENING A BRANCH LIBRARY FACILITY AT THIS TIME AND TO DEVELOP ALTERNATE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THOSE NEEDS AND CONCERNS THAT PROMPTED OR WERE UNCOVERED BY THE BRANCH FEASIBILITY STUDY.** Trustee Unumb seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

01.17.04 There were no **OTHER** items to be discussed.

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Unumb moved **ADJOURNMENT.** Trustee Brody Garkisch seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

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Janet Moravec, Recorder