



Harvey Public Library District's Board Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2017

Public Hearing

CALL TO ORDER

President Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mauzkie Ervin, Barbara Fields, Jerlene Harris, William Whitaker,
JoAnn Nesbitt, and Roberta Patterson

Absent: Tamika Price

Secretary Price joined the meeting at 6:38pm

BUDGET HEARING for FY 2017/2018

Treasurer Whitaker thanked the audience for coming out for the discussion of the 2017/2018 budget hearing. He also thanked the board of library trustees for taking the time out to review and input on the revision of the budget. Lastly, he thanked the library director and her staff for their tireless efforts for and during the revision of the budget.

Trustee Harris states for the matter of record that if there were two (2) or more trustees and Director Flowers working on the budget then the budget should've been made available for all trustees to review.

Treasurer Whitaker states that the statement that Trustee Harris made is not a fact and asked, if she could strike it from the record?

Trustee Harris replied no, I made my statement and you made your statement and it's a matter of record.

Trustee Harris states that she's looking at salaries and she noticed that Director Flowers salary increased from \$71,887.00 in 2013 and by 2016 she was at \$88,740.00. She asked, why are we paying Ms. Flowers this additional sum of money?

Treasurer Whitaker states that Trustee Harris is in violation of the Open Meetings Act for discussing the salary of one of the library's staff members.

Trustee Harris asked, if Treasurer Whitaker could cite the ordinance for her so she could look it up and come back with an apology?



Treasurer Whitaker states that the violation is in the book in front of Trustee Harris that she reference to in the meetings.

Trustee Harris states that she never received a budget comparison she will like to see where money is being spent.

Director Flowers states that she will like to state for the record that the statement that Trustee Harris made about not receiving a budget comparison is false. She states that all of the trustees received a copy of the audit and the auditor came in and done a presentation of the audit.

The board of library trustees discussed the Tentative Budget Ordinance 2017-3 for fiscal year 2017/2018. The board had a lengthy discussion and exchanged ideas, suggestions and concerns about the Tentative Budget. Director Flowers answered all questions and concerns the board had about the Tentative Budget 2017/2018.

DISCUSSION-PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Seay states that she will like for Trustee Harris to keep doing what she does for the library. She states that the road may be hard and long but we'll get there.

Ms. Donahue asked, what is the amount of the projected budget now since changes has been made?

Trustee Ervin states that the amount was \$1,598,750.00 on August 1, 2017 and after the revisions it is now \$1,541,200.00 as of today. He states that the 2016/2017 budget was at \$1,898,788.00 and there was a \$300,038.00 (a 20% reduction) difference in what HPLD is trying to propose for the 2017/2018 budget.

Ms. Cameron states that she heard that it's important that the board goes to these conferences because this is how libraries network and gain knowledge about things in the library world. She asked, if there are any transcripts or any feedback from the conferences that can be viewed via the internet? Ms. Cameron states that if it's very expensive for everyone to go to the conferences wouldn't it be better to just research the information online.

Some of the trustees gave their outtake on how valuable the conferences are to them and what their mission and purpose is for the library when they have gone on these conferences.

Ms. Branch states that the director doesn't have to go to the conferences all the time but she could appoint who she wants to go to cut that cost down.

Director Flowers states that she runs the day-to-day operations and there's so many committees that she's on when she does go to the conferences. She states that it's most important for the employees to go than the trustees it's stated in policy that staff get training. Director Flowers states that she's not trying to take anything away from the trustees and they should go however, there are more classes at the conferences for directors, managers and librarians than it is trustees, and she states that there are only a handful of classes reserved for trustees.

President Patterson states that she knows that this isn't the forum for her comment but other trustees made comments about the conferences. She states that the trustee position doesn't come with a set of



instructions whereas the employees, that's their job and that's what they're paid for. President Patterson states that were elected for these positions and do not have an Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) on how to be a trustee so these conferences are a great form of guidance and structure as to how to behave as trustees and what things are available to trustees so, it is important that trustees attend these conferences.

Ms. Donahue made another comment stating that maybe the board should consider cutting the conference days down to three (3) days rather than to six (6) days. She states that whoever goes to the conferences should have an individual report to present to the board on what they brought back from the conference.

ADJOURNMENT

President Patterson made a motion to adjourn the finance and public hearing meeting at 7:04pm and was seconded by Vice-President Nesbitt.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Mauzkie Ervin, Barbara Fields, Jerlene Harris, Tamika Price,
William Whitaker, JoAnn Nesbit, and Roberta Patterson

Nays:

Abstain:

Absent:

Meeting Adjourned.