

# Auburn Hills Public Library

APPROVED  
AUBURN HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FOR AUGUST 30, 2012

Location: Large Meeting Room, Auburn Hills Public Library  
3400 E. Seyburn Drive  
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326

- 1. Call to Order:** President Ben Sebrowski called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call:** Present: Ben Sebrowski, VeRonica Mitchell, Toni Whitley, Angela River  
Absent: None  
Also Present: Stephanie McCoy, Library Director  
Guests: 0

### **3. Acceptance of the Agenda:**

President Sebrowski requested the agenda included Public Comment.

**Moved by Ms. Mitchell to accept the agenda as amended.**

**Supported by Ms. River.**

**Vote: Yes: Sebrowski, Mitchell, Whitley, River**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (4-0)**

### **4. Public Comment – none.**

### **5. Ongoing Business**

#### **Appointment of Board Member – Term Ending November 2017**

Ms. Mitchell felt Ms. Douglas was a very strong candidate; she was well prepared and has numerous contacts throughout the City. Both Ms. Douglas and Mr. McCallister would be beneficial to the Library because of their ages and outlook. Currently the Library does very well with children's programs and attracting parents such as Ms. Spurlin, but there is a need to get the older youth involved. With Mr. McCallister starting his master's program, he speaks to many people in the community, and he would be an asset to the Library. He would be able to bring that demographic to the Library and more of an outreach to Oakland University. He seems to be very hands on and has a grass roots approach to improving the visibility of the Library. She also liked his comments about making the Library more user friendly, more approachable to other demographics.

Ms. River, asked Ms. Mitchell to explain her comment about grass roots approach.

Ms. Mitchell explained he seems to be very active, and volunteering as the youth's coach association and connecting with the volunteers on the campus and he seemed upset that the volunteer opportunities at OU didn't connect with the local communities and he wanted to do something about it.

Overall, Ms. Mitchell said she thinks about the talents on the current Library Board and she thinks Mr. McCallister would be the stronger contributor.

Ms. Whitley agreed with Ms. Mitchell. She noted Ms. Douglas seems to have so many things going on, including being a student. Mr. McCallister is trying to become more involved in the community, similar to where Ms. Douglas is, with her volunteering and being on the TIFA Board. Ms. Whitley feels Mr. McCallister would excel implementing programs at the Library Board.

President Sebrowski stated he is leaning towards Ms. Douglas; she was very prepared for her interview and he liked the fact she is on the TIFA Board. With Mr. Landsberg no longer on the Library Board or the TIFA Board, he likes that the Library would still have some direct connection with the TIFA Board; an advocate for the Library. Even though she seems to have a lot going on, she seems like the person who thrives on staying busy and involved and knows her limits. He liked her enthusiasm and her strong ties to Auburn Hills.

Ms. River stated she had concern with Mr. McCallister being gone from the community, and just coming

back the last few months that maybe he isn't ready to take on the position. As he noted there are many volunteer opportunities at OU. She also wasn't pleased with his comments regarding the Director; even though he may have been nervous. She doesn't think that showing such disrespect, nervous or not is acceptable.

Ms. River agrees Ms. Douglas would be the right choice; her only choice. She is part of the TIFA and concurs with President Sebrowski that it would be a good connection. She attends OU and intends on staying in the community and wants to be involved with government. People, who stay busy, seem to take on more responsibility and add a different perspective. With her education, she has the policy background fresh in her mind in helping the Board to move forward with the policy and procedures manual. Ms. River stated she has seen Ms. Douglas out and about in the community and she would be an asset to the Library Board.

Ms. Mitchell stated she agrees with Ms. River on many points about Ms. Douglas, but she would like to give others the opportunity to serve the community. Mr. McCallister is her first choice.

Ms. Whitley suggested waiting for Ms. Spurlin to come onboard, before a choice is made. It might be a good idea, to let the new Board Member help in the decision, possibly bringing a new perspective.

President Sebrowski agreed it would be a good idea and to bring the candidates back for a second interview.

All agreed it would be a wise decision to include Ms. Spurlin in the decision of the new Board Member.

It was decided to bring back the top two candidates for a second interview; Ms. Douglas and Mr. McCallister.

President Sebrowski suggested each Board Member prepare questions to ask at the next interview. We can bring the candidates back for the next meeting, after Ms. Spurlin is sworn in.

President Sebrowski asked Ms. McCoy to draft a letter and send to Ms. Douglas and Mr. McCallister asking them for a second interview and asked Ms. Mitchell to sign those letters since he'll be out of town. The next scheduled meeting is September 25, 2012 and have a special meeting prior to the regular meeting.

If for some reason Ms. Spurlin doesn't take the position, President Sebrowski asked if all were comfortable to offer Ms. Ellis the position. All were fine.

President Sebrowski stated he would try to contact Ms. Spurlin this evening and stated he would leave Ms. McCoy's contact information if that would be alright. Ms. McCoy stated that would be fine.

**President Sebrowski moved that in the event Ms. Spurlin declines the Library Board's offer to fill vacancy, that the very close second, Ms. Ellis be offered the Board position.**

**Supported by Ms. River.**

**VOTE: Yes: All**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried**

President Sebrowski stated he would send a letter thanking Ms. Whitaker for applying for the Board vacancy, but she wouldn't be offered the position.

**President Sebrowski moved to adjourn at 5:42 p.m.**

**Supported by Ms. Mitchell.**

**VOTE: Yes: All**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried**

**Respectively Submitted,  
Kathleen Novak**