



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

La Crosse Public Library
800 Main Street
La Crosse WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Library Board

Tuesday, August 2, 2016

12:15 PM

La Crosse Main Library - Director's Office
800 Main Street

PERSONNEL & BUDGET COMMITTEE

Call to Order, Roll Call

Those in attendance: Judy Bouffleur, James Cherf, Jodi Ehrenberger, Kelly Krieg-Sigman, Loretta Kilmer.

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of Bills

The list of bills was reviewed. James inquired about the charges related to baggage handling for conference attendance flights and suggested that more efforts be made to have carryon luggage instead. Kelly noted that the large expenditure for replacement staff computers was an expected expense and had been budgeted for. Motion to recommend approval to the full board was made by Judy and seconded by James. Motion carried.

Kelly shared with the committee her most current budget projection sheet, which showed a \$364,689 deficit. She also expressed her concerns regarding the number of major errors that were on the city-provided library salary and benefits table for 2017.

2. Retirement Vacancy and Available Options

Kelly reported on the meeting that had been held on 8/1 between herself, Dan Gelatt and the mayor regarding the projected 2017 budget, the large anticipated deficit, and the pending vacancy in circulation. The mayor was noncommittal in his remarks, and again brought up the idea of staffing the branches with only one person. Kelly noted that she responded to the mayor that this was a non-starter, and that she would be unable to support such a move. Discussion ensued regarding what should be done with the pending vacancy and how it would affect the 2017 budget. It was pointed out that reducing hours of operation in this budget year would be politically difficult and hard to communicate. Kelly indicated that management staff had discussed the situation; the general consensus was that staff "could" cover the vacancy hours but ONLY until the end of the year; this would be accomplished through a combination of extra hours for part-timers, overtime hours for full time hourly employees, and Kelly picking up 4 Saturdays in addition to her current every third Sunday. Motion to recommend approval to the full board of the following was made by James and seconded by Judy: (1) that the current 24 hr./week position in circulation NOT be filled, with existing staff picking up the slack via additional hours for part-timers, overtime hours for full time hourly staff, and the addition of more of the director's time on the weekends, (2) that this position be eliminated from the 2017 budget salary table, and (3) that this elimination would be accompanied by further reductions of service hours effective 1/1/2017. Furthermore, the motion is also to include a formal acknowledgment that the use of overtime and the director's time to cover desk shifts was NOT a long-term solution; unless additional funding was made available, existing service hours would have to be reduced. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.