LIBRARY BOARD PRESENT:
Beverly Aplikowski, Robert Lamb, David Norrgard, Burton Nygren, Janice Rapheal, Lori-Anne Williams, Roberta Weltzin

STAFF PRESENT:
Mary Larson, Library Board Coordinator; Sandy Walsh, Deputy Director; Lynn Wyman, Deputy Director; Julie Neville, Library Facilities Manager; Bill Michel, Roseville Library Manager; Kristi Saksvig, Communications Manager; Jeff Eide, Maplewood Library Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:
Jan Parker, Ramsey County Commissioner; Sue Gehrz, Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries; Joan Janacek, June Loomis, Zola Hardwick, White Bear Lake residents; Janet Allwine, Vadnais Heights resident; Christine Henne, Northwestern College student

CALL TO ORDER:
Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Program Room of the Ramsey County Library in Maplewood, 3025 Southlawn Drive, followed by introductions of those present.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Zola Hardwick, a volunteer and book club facilitator at the Ramsey County Library in White Bear Lake, read a statement on behalf of herself and Janacek, Loomis, and Allwine. The group was present to inquire about the Library Board’s plans for the library in White Bear Lake now that the major projects in Maplewood and Roseville are completed and nearly completed. They asked to be included in future planning by being part of a focus group and/or developing a survey of White Bear Lake patrons for Library Board consideration. She thanked the Library Board for considering the group’s request.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES:
Aplikowski made a motion to approve the agenda for 10-21-09, and the minutes of 9-16-09 as presented. Norrgard seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT COST-SHARE AGREEMENT:
The Ramsey County Library in Roseville has been awarded up to $50,000 for educational and interpretive signage to highlight innovative storm water management practices developed in urban environments. Following approval of project plans and specifications submitted by the Library, the Rice Creek Watershed District will provide the Library cost-share assistance in the amount of 50% of the project contract, not to exceed $50,000.

Storm water management is part of the plan for achieving Gold Level LEED Certification for the Roseville project. Gary Davis, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney, has reviewed and approved the attached Agreement.

Aplikowski made a motion to accept the Rice Creek Watershed District Cost-Share Agreement in the amount of 50% of the project contract, not to exceed $50,000, and to authorize the Library Director to execute the Agreement. The motion was seconded by Norrgard, and approved unanimously by the Library Board.

2009 THIRD QUARTER REPORTS:
The Library Board reviewed the third quarter workplan, financial report, and statistics as submitted.
TERRAZZO FLOOR DESIGN PRESENTATION:
Brad Kaspari of Kaspari Design Services has been working with a committee of Library Board and staff representatives on designs for the terrazzo floors and staircase at the remodeled and expanded Ramsey County Library in Roseville. Copies of the proposed designs were included in the Library Board’s documentation for the meeting. Norrgard indicated that he enjoyed being part of the creative process, which was very collaborative. The chosen designs were selected by consensus vote of the committee. Nemitz noted that Ramsey County does not have a policy on art in public buildings. The terrazzo flooring will be funded by the State Library Construction Grant awarded to the Roseville project.

ROSEVILLE UPDATE:

Arthur Street
- RV’s year-to-date circulation surpassed one million items on October 9.

Roseville Construction
- The project continues to be on schedule.
- The underground storm water holding systems have been completed. The curb and gutter for the new parking lot and the front drive has been installed. Black top will be installed in the next week. Grass will be seeded this fall.
- The Teen Room foundation has been poured and steel has been installed. The second floor steel work is done and the roof decking will soon be finished. Field measurements for the window systems have begun. Complete enclosure is expected in late November.
- The City is reviewing plans to convert the old pond on the southeastern corner of the lot to a rain garden.
- At the request of the City of Roseville, a sidewalk has been added to the last row of parking in the old parking lot. The parking spaces in that row will be designated as compact car parking.
- Designs for the terrazzo floors were finalized on September 23 and were included in the Library Board packet.
- Contract negotiations are in process for the Automated Materials Handling system.
- Coffee shop proposals are under review.
- Furniture selection is well underway.
- A design is being developed for the lower level Automation Services space.
- Susan Nemitz and Jan Parker met with a Roseville neighbor who expressed concerns with the height of the second story.
- At the request of nearby residents, a meeting has been scheduled with the project’s landscape architect on Wednesday, November 4 at 4 p.m. on the Roseville Library site to discuss the landscape buffering between the library’s parking lots and the residential properties to the east.

Wyman noted that the paperwork for Gold LEED Certification has been submitted, and a response received asking for additional information, an expected step in the process of LEED Certification.

Nygren indicated that the process of designing the expansion of the library in Roseville has been sensitive and fair, and recommended against spending project dollars to make changes in the design at this time. Nemitz noted that there is still time available to shift landscaping on the site. Norrgard reminded the Library Board that the land north of the library was originally purchased by a developer who intended to build a multi-story office building or high-density housing on the site. Prior to that, the land held single family homes, and was not parkland as it’s been stated by the neighbors.

Contingency Priorities
To date, McGough Construction has not released any of the project contingency funds, but Ramsey County Property Management anticipates that some funds will be released. An updated Project Priorities list was reviewed by the Library Board. Nemitz noted that all items on the contingency list were originally included within the scope of the project, but moved to the contingency list to meet the budget. The list reflects current priorities, which may change based upon timing of when funding becomes available.

Norrgard made a motion to approve the list of contingency budget priorities as presented, with the understanding that there will be future revisions to the list. Nygren seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.
BENCHMARKING RCL TO OTHER COMPARABLE LIBRARIES:
Jeff Eide, Library Manager at the Ramsey County Library in Maplewood, compiled a statistical report showing comparisons between RCL and other library systems of similar populations served and total income. The information for this year’s report is gathered from the Public Library Data Service Report for 2008.

Continuing a trend from the past several years, RCL far exceeds other library systems in the U.S. and the other MELSA libraries in measures involving circulation and visits to the library.

The Library Board discussed the national ranking tools, including the HAPLR, which is falling out of favor, and the newly-developed LJ Index.

MAPLEWOOD LIBRARY UPDATE:
Eide reported that the current library in Maplewood opened 2½ years ago to an immediate spike in circulation and visits. In 2008, Maplewood had more than one million items checked out for the first time. Storytimes, held twice each week, routinely draw more than 100 attendees. The customers at the new facility are younger and more diverse than at the previous location on Beam Avenue, less than a half mile away.

FRIENDS OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARIES REPORT:
Gehrz indicated that the Friends have approved $70,000 for the Library in 2010, plus $1,800 for rental of the office space in the Administrative Offices. To date, over $166,000 has been raised for the Roseville Capital Campaign, including funding for a fireplace in the upper level, and $50,000 from the Roseville Rotary for naming rights to the children’s program room.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:
The Library Board discussed Nemitz's written report for October 2009. In addition, Nemitz noted that RCL staff led four programs at the recent Minnesota Library Association conference, on the subjects of volunteers, teens, cultural heritage, and master planning.

MELSA REPORT:
Norrgard was not able to attend the most recent meeting of the MELSA Governing Board. He reminded the Library Board that MELSA provided the funding for the new Homework Rescue program.

CITIZEN COMPLAINT:
Aplikowski reported that she received a complaint from a citizen who was unhappy with the Library’s rental program for DVDs and now gaming software. The citizen felt the Library was competing with private sector businesses by offering these programs. Nygren noted that all services offered by the Library compete with private sector businesses to some degree, but not all residents can afford to purchase the materials or services offered by the Library.

LIAISON TO THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:
Aplikowski noted that she is unable to continue as liaison to the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries, and asked Weltzin to complete her term for 2009. Weltzin agreed, and the Library Board members unanimously approved the change.

NEXT MEETING: November 18, 2009, Administrative Offices, 4570 North Victoria Street, 6:30 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Larson,
Library Board Coordinator