

## COMMITTEE NOTES

### **Building Oversight Committee Meeting Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees March 14, 2013**

The Building Oversight Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. at the Central Library, 14 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Claudia Oñate Greim (Chair)  
Leon Dixon  
Olivia Dorsey  
Jonathan Kemper (ex officio)

OTHER TRUSTEES PRESENT: David Mayta

STAFF PRESENT: Crosby Kemper III, Chief Executive  
Claudia Baker, Director of Development  
Michael Bollinger, Director of Information Technology  
Lillie Brack, Central Library Director  
Henry Fortunato, Director of Public Affairs and  
Communication  
Jerry Houchins, Operations Manager  
Joel Jones, Director of Branch and Outreach Services  
Cheptoo Kositany-Buckner, Deputy Director  
Heather Pedersen, Administrative Officer  
Debbie Siragusa, Chief Financial Officer

Oñate Greim called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Jones gave a brief update on the current plans for renovating the Library's branch locations. Highlights included:

- North-East, Waldo, and Trails West are the branches most in need of major renovation. Baker and Jones are preparing a grant proposal to fund a branch study. The study would include community surveys and the hiring of architectural engineer consultants to survey all nine branches to evaluate where they are structurally and what could be done to redesign each branch to fit current and future use. The study would be utilized in forming a three year branch service and facilities plan.
- Carpeting and tile replacement at Trails West is underway, funded through a bequest from a patron. Staff is evaluating the best way to utilize the remaining funds from the bequest.
- The service desk at Westport is being replaced and plans for additional upgrades include replacement of public computers, a centralized public computer area,

replacement of soft seating and chairs, and a fresh coat of paint on the interior walls. The upgrades are being funded through gifts to the Westport Branch.

C. Kemper reported on the Library's plans to reorganize service delivery at the Central Library. The reorganization would begin with consolidation of the public general use computers to the north end of the first floor of the Library. Concentrating these computers into one space would allow the Library to improve the range of services by utilizing a smaller number of specially trained staff to provide support to patrons using the computers and freeing up Reference Librarians to spend more time assisting patrons with readers' advisory and catalog, research, and information requests.

The Library plans to request approval from the Board at the April Board meeting to contract for the electrical and computer networking installation necessary to begin the public computer consolidation project. Once the infrastructure is in place, staff will explore and test equipment, furniture, and layout options to determine the optimal combination for meeting patron needs for computer services.

Discussing the broader reorganization plans, C. Kemper also reported that the Library is working on the reorganization of the browsing area, reading spaces, and the promotion of reading for pleasure. Staff will bring drawings of alternative plans for these areas to the Board at future meeting. C. Kemper added that feedback from Board members would be welcome and a walkthrough of the spaces could be arranged for any interested Trustees.

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Claudia Oñate Greim, Chair  
Building Oversight Committee

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Date