



**Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees**  
**August 19, 2008**  
**Minutes**

The Springfield-Greene County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, August 19, 2008, at the Strafford Branch with Cherri Jones presiding.

Members present: Leslie Carrier, Bruce Chrisope, Martha Crise, Cheryl Griffeth, Neil Guion, Vickie Hicks, Cherri Jones, Rodney Nichols

Members absent: Morey Mechlin

Trustee Cherri Jones introduced Cheryl Griffeth, a City appointee to the Library Board.

Manager Allison Eckhardt reported that in its first eight days of opening, 1,600 people walked through the doors and 80 Library cards were issued at the new Strafford Branch. The branch serves an area population of 2,300 residents.

Disposition of Minutes: Hicks moved to approve the July 15, 2008, minutes. Nichols seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Guion yea, Hicks yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

Finance and Personnel Committee: Through July, the Library was 3% under budget. Miscellaneous income included a donation from the LaBoda Fund through the Community Foundation for books as well as withdrawn books purchased by area libraries.

Expenses included fees for annual MOBIUS "Get Connected" courier delivery service and fees for summer reading program presenters from Account 5319 Professional Services. Account 5371 Building Repairs included outdoor signage for the Strafford Branch. Account 5382 Building Rental included rent for both July and August.

Chrisope moved to accept the financial report. Crise seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Guion yea, Hicks yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Negotiations are nearly complete on a new lease for the Willard Branch. Since both the Library and the Willard Branch landlord use the same attorney, different attorneys were engaged to review the contract.

Engineers from Palmerton & Parrish, Inc., are reviewing data on a reported sink hole with the developer of the property for the new Republic Branch. After getting an opinion from the engineers, architect Jim Stufflebeam will present an updated site plan for the facility.

Programs, Services and Technology Committee: Circulation in July increased 8.8% with 348,036 materials circulating systemwide. Total branch traffic increased 10.1% with 162,918 patron visits. Systemwide, 1,345 groups used the meeting rooms with an attendance of 9,048. There were 341,222

searches from the Library's electronic products. The web server recorded a total of 826,704 page views by 96,255 visitors during July.

Search Committee: The Board will meet with consultant John Keister on Tuesday, August 26, to discuss the candidates he recommends for the executive director position. Interviews as well as public and staff forums will be scheduled by mid-September.

Report of the Director: Executive Director Annie Busch thanked Strafford Branch Manager Allison Eckhardt, Community Relations Director Jeanne Duffey and all the staff involved in getting the Strafford Branch ready for the grand opening.

Youth Services Coordinator Nancee Dahms-Stinson will report on the summer reading program at the September Board meeting.

In July, the Park Central Branch circulated 10,269 materials and had 13,622 patrons visit the branch.

New Business: Jones made the following committee appointments: Finance and Personnel: Bruce Chrisope, chair; Rod Nichols, Vickie Hicks. Buildings and Grounds: Neil Guion, chair; Leslie Carrier, Martha Crise, Cheryl Griffeth. Programs, Services and Technology: Morey Mechlin, chair; Leslie Carrier.

Chrisope moved to set the tax rate for the 2008-2009 fiscal year at \$ .2414, which is the maximum rate permitted, as certified by the state auditor's calculations. Chrisope seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Guion yea, Hicks yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

Busch is serving on a state-wide committee reviewing property tax assessments. She will meet with financial representatives from the City of Springfield and Springfield Public Schools to discuss assessment issues with the Greene County Collector's office.

The State of Missouri requires re-adopting biennially a resolution making public the disclosure of potential conflicts of interest. Nichols moved to re-adopt the Conflict of Interest Statement. Carrier seconded. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Guion yea, Hicks yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

Chrisope moved the Board adjourn to closed session to discuss the Executive Director's annual evaluation. Crise seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Carrier yea, Chrisope yea, Crise yea, Griffeth yea, Guion yea, Hicks yea, Jones yea, Nichols yea. Motion carried.

The Board adjourned to closed session at 4:35 p.m.

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Board of Trustees

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Debbie Eckert, Business Office Manager