

Special Meeting
July 24, 2007

Board Members Present: Anna Reiz, Evva Schuster, Helen Sergott, Suzanne Wilson, Julie Yelick-Miller

Board Members Absent: Kathy Eubank

Staff Present: Jackie Cooley, Kathy Fannon, Linda Feher, Barbara Gunter, Chuck Schacht

Public Present: Margaret Miller, Washington Township resident

President, Yelick-Miller called the meeting order at 7:00 PM.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Yelick-Miller introduced all Board Members present to the public audience.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Staff members Fannon, Cooley and Gunter voiced their vote of confidence for candidate and former Romeo District Library employee, Jackie Harvey.

Chuck Schacht urged the Board to reopen the search if there wasn't any one candidate that stood out as outstanding to the Board.

CANDIDATES FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR THE ROMEO DISTRICT LIBRARY:

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Suzanne Wilson read a list of 24 criteria that were used to evaluate the four candidates who interviewed for the Director's position on Saturday, July 21, 2007. She stated that the Board went into the interview process with the full intent of reopening the search if none of the applicants were suitable candidates. She further stated that she was a believer in conducting competency-based interviews which consist of determining the set of competencies the organization is looking for and asking questions that will help determine if a candidate meets those requirements.

Wilson further stated that all four candidates who were interviewed were highly skilled, excellent candidates, but one candidate shone head and shoulders above the rest, and that candidate was Dr. Mary Elizabeth Harper. Dr. Harper has a doctorate in education, has over eleven years experience in library administration, is currently living in Colorado where she is a library consultant, has handled budgets up to \$2.7 million, has been extremely successful in bringing in grants, and has been a director at several libraries. She has been a professor, a researcher, has written many publications and is at the forefront of the latest in library technology. All of her references were excellent and spoke very highly of her.

Sergott stated that another criteria that was important to the Board was the fact that Dr. Harper had been the director of a district library which is quite different from a library associated with a municipality, where the municipality takes care of many of the daily details of running a library whereas the director of a district library is responsible for everything.

Wilson stated that after conducting the four interviews, there was unanimous consensus among all members present that the director search would not have to be reopened because they had found an exemplary candidate.

Wilson made a motion supported by Sergott that the Board of Trustees make an employment offer to Dr. Mary Elizabeth Harper for Director of the Romeo District Library. A roll call vote was taken. Wilson: Aye. Sergott: Aye. Reiz: Aye. Schuster: Aye. Yelick-Miller: Aye. Motion passed.

Sergott made a motion supported by Schuster to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Evva Schuster
Board Secretary

Linda Feher
Recording Secretary