

## WRL Board of Trustees

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### Minutes of Board Work Session of January 24, 2007 Theatre Stage, Williamsburg Library

**Present:** Board Members Susan Geary, Tory Gussman, Sarah Houghland, Mary Norment, Bill Porter, Phil Serra, Jean Van Tol, Jack Willis; Library Director John A. Moorman; Library Assistant Director Genevieve Owens; Library Staff Noreen Bernstein, Carrie Binsfeld, Peg Bradshaw, Janet Crowther, Eletha Davis, Benjamin Goldberg, Patrick Golden, Melissa Johnson, Elizabeth Parker, Cela Schmidt, Barry Trott, and Christine White; Denelle Wrightson of PSA Dewberry. Absent was Board Member Michael Fox.

**Call to Order:** Chair Willis called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Award Nomination:** Dr. Moorman announced Adult Services Director Barry Trott would be the recipient of the Allie Beth Martin Award, bestowed by the Public Library Association. According to the PLA website, the award "honors a librarian who, in a public library setting, has demonstrated extraordinary range and depth of knowledge about books or other library materials and has distinguished ability to share that knowledge. A plaque and a \$3,000 honorarium are presented annually at the ALA Annual Conference." The Board congratulated Trott on his nomination and award.

**Space Needs Facility Discussion:** Ms. Wrightson asked the Board and Library staff for any additional comments, concerns, or questions regarding the report.

Mr. Serra thanked Dr. Moorman for attending the Williamsburg City Council meeting and explaining the situation with the Williamsburg building. The Council is supportive of the suggestions.

Dr. Moorman and Ms. Wrightson addressed questions regarding the determination of square footage in relation to college students, York County residents, and growth. Ms. Wrightson noted the revised report eliminated the square footage comparison because inaccuracies were found in the available statistics. Mr. Porter questioned service options available to the residents of Grove. Possibilities include working with Newport News Public Library, E-Kiosks, and Outreach.

Willis stated the staff is unique to WRL. The community enjoys interacting with Library staff and therefore should be considered when evaluating new staffing models and technology. Bradshaw noted that the self-checkout machine is used frequently in Youth Services; however, other machines located throughout the library have low traffic. Wrightson pointed out the younger population is amenable to self-checkout and new technology. Pricing, upgrades, and continued improvement of available technology (self-checkout and RFID- radio frequency identification) will need to be evaluated.

The Board considered the long-term and short-term goals from the report to evaluate those issues that are important now. The short-term goals need to be identified to determine how they will be dealt with and what can be completed with carryover funds. Short-term recommendations submitted in the report will be reviewed and undertaken in a timely manner.

The Board questioned if the Annex would be approved and completed before the third library. Mr. Serra stated the Annex is contingent on the City in regards to space and location.

Approved as written 2/28/07

The Board expressed concerns the sites for a third library are single purpose destinations and discussed the pros and cons of a storefront library. The Board will organize a trip to visit and evaluate the proposed sites.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Willis moved to adjourn the work session at 3:25 p.m.; all agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine White