Columbia Library District
Minutes, Meeting of April 12, 2007

Board members present were Marie Glaze, President; Rosie Gerding; Lynn Hostetler; David McDonald; Tom Richards; Jo Sapp; MaryEllen Sievert; and David Webber.

Also present were Melissa Carr, Director; Connie Bush, Melanie Henry, Pat Kopp, Sherry McBride-Brown, Marilyn McLeod, Karen Neely, Jim Smith, and Lauren Williams, DBRL staff; and Jessica Robinson, Pat Powell, and Patsy Craghead, DBRL Board members.

**Call to Order**

Glaze called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. in the Friends Room of the Callaway County Public Library.

**Approval of Minutes**

McDonald moved, Sievert seconded, to approve the March 15, 2007 minutes. The motion passed.

**Communications**

There were no items to be communicated.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Director’s Report**

Carr reported that on Monday the mayor will make an appointment to fill the open seat on the Columbia Library District Board. She said that Jim Loveless had applied for the position.

Carr said that all three lights for the Bussabarger Screen had defects and replacements were being shipped to the library.

**Financial Reports of the Columbia Library District Capital Project**

Smith offered to answer any questions on the financial reports for the Capital Project Fund and the Building Fund.

**Project Update and Cost Proposals**

Carr reported that there were no cost proposals to discuss.
New Business

Glaze appointed the following board members to the Columbia Library District Nominating Committee:

1. Rosie Gerding, Chair
2. Lynn Hostetler
3. David Webber

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Miscellaneous

Board members discussed the lingering negative feelings about the Columbia building project that resurfaced after the Boone County election. Richards said that a number of people feel that the Columbia Library District (CLD) Board lied by calling the project a renovation and therefore misspent taxpayers’ money, even though the project cost less than budgeted and we saved $2.8 million due to the advance refunding of a portion of the bonds. In response to a question, Sapp said that the same footprint, floors, and foundation from the original building were used, and so the renovation language was appropriate. She added that if an entirely new building had been constructed, it would have cost an additional $1.5 million or more. The board concluded that the negative perceptions need to be addressed and that they should develop some sort of communication strategy to get the board’s message to the public and regain the public’s trust. Carr said in the near term the board might consider Glaze writing a letter to the editors of the local papers.

Farris said that this election had raised some old issues but that the board could use the fact that the community is talking about library services as an opportunity to highlight the positive things the library does. She said that the board should acknowledge the issues raised by the public and let them know we intend to make every effort to address and/or fix them. Carr added that the new ad-hoc committee charged with analyzing the election will help sort out how much effect negative feelings about the Columbia building project had on the election outcome.

Adjournment

McDonald moved, Gerding seconded, to adjourn. Glaze adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Lauren Williams, Executive Assistant.

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Board Secretary