Call to Order, Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Introduction of Staff and Visitors

Hostetler called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. in the Virginia Young Room of the Columbia Public Library. Board members present were Lynn Hostetler, President; Terri Brunner; Rosie Gerding; Marie Glaze; Terry Higgins; Tiff Lauffer; Patricia Powell, Vice President/Secretary; Debbie Reed, Warrant Officer; Tom Richards; Jessica Robinson; Jo Sapp; MaryEllen Sievert; and David Webber. Patsy Craghead, Linda Dellsperger, Jim Loveless, Michael Luebbert, David McDonald, and Larry Nolte were absent.

Also present were: Melissa Carr, Director; Elinor Barrett, Kris Farris, Melanie Henry, Linda Hodgkins, Karen Neely, Jim Smith, and Lauren Williams, DBRL staff; Sara Semelka of the Columbia Daily Tribune; and Rose Schloot, member of the public.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Sapp moved, Reed seconded, to approve the minutes of May 10, 2007. The motion passed.

Monthly Reports

Financial Report – Gerding said that she noticed the library had received an unemployment claim, and that this was the first time she had seen one on the financial report. Smith explained that a change in the law a few years ago spread responsibility for an unemployment claim among the past few employers and not just the immediate past employer. He added that sometimes the library will pay a claim but will continue to file an appeal, and in some cases we receive money back. In response to a board member comment, Smith said staff would review this process.

Service Report – Carr said that the Columbia Public Library’s (CPL) busiest days in May were the two days after Memorial Day, with 2,555 people visiting that Tuesday. She added that Callaway had a number of days in May with over 500 visitors, which is a significant number for that location. She said that although the door counters at SoBoCo were not operational, staff reported that they felt the number of patrons at that location was also high. Carr said that in May the Technical Services Department did a great job processing a much larger number of materials than usual, in part to get an increased number of books on the shelves for summer reading.

Director’s Report – In response to a question, Carr clarified that her meetings with community members reported in her list of May activities were meetings she held as part of the Ad Hoc Election Review Committee’s efforts to solicit input from the public on the election outcome.
On behalf of the staff, Carr thanked the three retiring board members – Larry Nolte, Debbie Reed, and Jo Sapp – for their years of service to the library system.

Carr distributed the DBRL meeting dates for 2007-2008 and reminded board members to turn in their committee volunteer forms. She announced that the One Read program is off to a great start with press coverage in the local papers and on the radio of this year’s selection, *Water for Elephants*. Those who sign up for the program receive a bag of peanuts with the One Read logo, and these giveaways are funded by the Friends. Carr said that summer reading is also going extremely well with a large number of sign-ups in all locations.

Barrett announced that the Columbia Public Library will be one of twenty sites to host an exhibit of the Missouri Heart Gallery Project. 68 donated professional photographs of foster children looking for adoptive homes will be on display in the lobby and in the children’s area June 29th through July 14th. Volunteers will staff the exhibit in the lobby, answer the public’s questions and distribute literature on the project. Barrett said that 2,000 kids in Missouri are seeking adoption. She said that after last year’s Missouri Heart Gallery Project exhibit there was a 220% increase in the number of adoption inquiries. An opening reception for the project will be held at noon on June 29th, and Presiding Commissioner Ken Pearson will be in attendance.

**District Board Reports**

Columbia Library District (CLD) Board – Glaze reported that the CLD Board approved a $72,634 budget for expenditure of the funds donated to the library by the Friends. Approximately $8,600 of this amount is carryover from last year’s donation. She said they also approved the following slate of officers for the upcoming board year:

- President: Tom Richards
- Vice President: Rosie Gerding
- Secretary/Warrant Officer: David McDonald

Glaze said the board received updates on improving the comfort and energy efficiency of the lobby entrance during extreme weather days and on parking lot issues. She said that the board approved a motion to direct staff to hire a traffic engineer to explore options for both parking lots and traffic flow issues at the Columbia Public Library. Finally, Glaze said that Aimée Leonhard, the library’s art archivist, reported on the registration of some of the library’s sculpture with the Smithsonian and a possible art donation by Frank Stack.

**Board Committees**

Ad Hoc Election Review Committee – Richards reported that the committee and staff refined a summary of themes that emerged during the listening sessions held in Hallsville, Columbia, and Ashland. He said that staff and a few committee members are in the process of interviewing survey vendors, and he reminded the board that the Election Review Committee is still in the information gathering stage of the process and not yet ready to make recommendations for addressing any of the listed issues. He said that the information gathered by the survey, in
conjunction with the feedback the committee has already gathered, will help them make sure they have identified all of the issues reflected in the election outcome and determine which ones the voters feel are the most significant.

Richards then reviewed the main themes that came out of the listening sessions, including: taxes are too high; the proposed buildings were too expensive; confusion on the question; the design of the building was too extravagant; poor choice of location; CLD/Board issues; and 1965 city limits/governance issues. Richards said that some positive comments about the library came out as well. He said that overall he felt good about the listening sessions and that most of the people in attendance were there because in some way they support library services; no one said that we don’t need or want libraries, but they just didn’t like our plan. He said that the biggest themes that ran through most of the comments were communication and public relations. He said the library and board hasn’t done enough to communicate with the public, and committee members have asked that the next meeting be devoted to discussion of communication issues. Richards added that he suspected that the committee will eventually recommend the formation of a DBRL Communication Committee. He said that after the Election Review Committee finishes its work it will present its recommendations to the DBRL Board of Trustees.

Hostetler thanked the members of the Election Review Committee, saying that they had already put in a lot of time and work.

**Evaluation Committee** – Richards reminded the board that at the last regional board meeting he talked about a new process to set measurable objectives for the Director and had asked for suggested objectives from the trustees. He said he was disappointed to report that he had received input from just four trustees. He said that the Evaluation Committee has not met since the last regional meeting, but he thought it was extremely likely that some high priority objectives for the Director will come out of the Ad Hoc Election Review Committee.

Richards said that the results of the 2007 Patron Satisfaction Survey were included in this month’s board packet. He commented that perhaps in the future the responsibility for conducting this survey would belong to the communication/PR committee if this committee is formed. Gerding commented that on the year-to-year comparison spreadsheet there was a typo, and that in the 2000 column the percentage of respondents satisfied or very satisfied with library services should be 88.42%. Richards said that if any board members wanted copies of the detailed comments from the listening sessions and surveys they should contact Carr.

**Nominating Committee** – On behalf of the DBRL Nominating Committee Robinson presented the following slate of officers for 2007-2008:

- **President:** Patricia Powell
- **Vice President/ Secretary:** Terry Higgins
- **Warrant Officer:** Marie Glaze
Daniel Boone Regional Library  
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There were no additional nominations from the floor. The motion passed. Carr reminded the board that the new officers would begin their terms July 1.

Old Business

Hostetler said that the bylaws require at least one meeting per board year for each of the standing committees. He said that the Long Range Planning Committee needed to meet before June 30, 2007 unless the board decided such a meeting was unnecessary. Robinson moved, Sievert seconded, that the Long Range Planning Committee not be required to meet during the 2006-2007 board year. The motion passed.

Richards commented that there is an existing plan that is a public statement of our long-range vision and asked if there should be any formal action to suspend that plan. Carr said that the Master Facilities Plan is worded so that plans go forward “if funding is available.” Powell suggested that the new Long Range Planning Committee take a look at the Master Facilities Plan and revise it if needed. Higgins said that until the survey is conducted and the Election Review Committee does its work, it will be difficult to revise the plan. Board members discussed some way to acknowledge that the plan is on hold or temporarily suspended.

Sapp moved, Richards seconded, to hold the implementation of the Master Facilities Plan in abeyance pending the review and recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee. The motion passed.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public – Comments on Agenda Items

Rose Schloot said she appreciated the board going out into the community and listening to the public’s input.

Staff – Comments/Announcements

Barrett said that while the Missouri Heart Gallery photographs are on display, there will be special materials displays on adoption to complement the exhibit.

Board – Comments/Announcements

There were no board comments or announcements.
Adjournment

Sievert moved, Higgins seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Hostetler adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Lauren Williams, Executive Assistant.

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Board Secretary