

AGENDA
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL
MAIN LIBRARY BOARD ROOM
7711 GOODWOOD BOULEVARD
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806
OCTOBER 11, 2008
8:00 A.M.

I. ROLL CALL

II. DISCUSSION OF THE INTERVIEWS FOR DIRECTOR – DAN REED

III. DATE FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING – LIBRARY BOARD

IV. COMMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
East Baton Rouge Parish Library Board of Control

October 11, 2008

A special meeting of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library Board of Control was held in the Main Library Board Room on Saturday, October 11, 2008. Mr. Dan Reed, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. Members of the Board present were Mrs. Katherine Auer, Mr. Stanford O. Bardwell, Jr., Mr. Donald Browning, Mr. Jamie Griffin; Ms. Tanya Freeman and Mrs. Elizabeth Tomlinson. Also in attendance were Mrs. Mary Stein, Assistant Library Director of Administration; Mrs. Patricia Husband, Assistant Library Director of Branch Services; Mrs. Brenda Lovett, Library Business Manager and three members of the community.

Discussion of the Interviews for Director – Mr. Dan Reed

Mr. Reed said the applicants under consideration for Library Director are Ms. Emily Eddy, Mr. David Farrar, and Mr. Michael Golrick. The schedule for the interviews is Ms. Eddy at 8:00 a.m., Mr. Farrar at 9:30 a.m. and Mr. Golrick at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Reed noted that in the past the interviews were conducted in Executive Session meaning that the interview sessions are not open to the public. He added that this was announced at the last Board meeting on September 18, 2008. He said that there was concern that the Library Board would comply with the Louisiana statute regarding open meetings. Therefore, the Board has posted an announcement of the meeting and has opened this portion of the meeting to the public. However, Mr. Reed felt that the actual interviews should be conducted in Executive Session. Mr. Reed made a motion that the Board meet in Executive Session to interview the three candidates, Ms. Eddy, Mr. Farrar and Mr. Golrick, for the position of Library Director. Mr. Bardwell seconded the motion.

Mr. Browning asked why the Board had to go into Executive Session to conduct the interviews. He said that other governing bodies conduct their interviews in public and therefore, the Library Board should follow suit. He added that the public is paying the salary of the Library Director and should be allowed to be present during the interview process. Mr. Bardwell said he respected Mr. Browning's opinion saying policies of the library and business matters should be conducted in an open meeting, but he feels the interviews should be conducted in a closed session. Mrs. Auer agreed with closing the interviews, but added that she would abide by the majority vote. Ms. Tomlinson said the Board is not being secretive and she felt the interviews should be closed. She was concerned that so much time was being taken to discuss this issue; time that should be utilized to interview the first candidate, Ms. Emily Eddy. Ms. Freeman asked for a clarification of the issue being discussed. Mr. Browning then added that in discussion with the City-Parish Office of the Parish Attorney yesterday, he was told that Executive Session is allowed when competence or compensation is discussed. Mr. Reed then asked for a vote on the motion to conduct the interviews in Executive Session. Mr. Reed, Mrs. Auer, Mr. Bardwell and Ms. Tomlinson voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Browning, Ms. Freeman and Mr. Griffin voted

against the motion. There not being two-thirds in favor, the motion failed. Therefore, the Board did not go into Executive Session. The interviews were conducted in an open meeting.

The Library Board began the interview process at 8:20 a.m. and spoke with the first candidate, Ms. Emily Eddy. They then spoke to the second candidate, Mr. David Farrar at 9:30 a.m., followed by the third candidate, Mr. Michael Golrick at 11:00 a.m.

Date for Next Board Meeting – Library Board

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. at the Main Library in the Auditorium on the first floor. At this open meeting the Board will vote for the candidate they feel should be offered the position of Library Director for the East Baton Rouge Parish Library.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mrs. Tomlinson.

Dan Reed, President

Mary H. Stein, Assistant Director