

The Alexandria Library Board was called to order by Chairperson Kathleen Schloeder, on Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 4:05pm in the Ilka K. Dickman Board Room at Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library. Members present were K. Schloeder, R. Hobson, A. Paul, G. Day-Fuller, and H. Desfosses. Members absent were O. Fitzgerald and A. Silberberg.

Staff present were Director Dawson, Administrative Officer Wesson, HR Manager Veronica Matthews, and Technical Services Manager Lynda Rudd.

Director Dawson reported on the Library's FY15 budget.

The Healthy and Thriving Families Focus Area Team (FAT) had been informed that they would take a 4.3% cut. The team decided to spread that cut evenly among their departments, which would mean a cut of \$291,000 for the Library. The FAT met to share with each other how they would handle the cuts individually. Director Dawson informed them that the recommendations she was presented had yet to be voted on by the Library Board.

The recommended cuts were:

Unfunded Positions (maintaining 2 seasonal positions vacant through FY15)	\$23,367
Increase Vacancy Savings	145,059
2 Day Furlough	44,854
Materials Budget Cut	30,000
Eliminate Sunday Hours	48,251

The Board discussed the cuts, and ranked them in the order of preference, in which they appear above. However, the Board did not approve of cutting Sunday hours.

Mrs. Paul congratulated Director Dawson on the way that she has protected regular staff. Mrs. Day-Fuller agreed and added that the director had also thought ahead and made sure that the Library was prepared in case they had to make these cuts, by keeping vacancies open. Director Dawson stated that the fact that positions were kept vacant certainly did not mean that the Library did not need them; she did not want to be in the position of having to fire someone who filled a position, when it was known that cuts were coming. Mrs. Schloeder thanked the staff for being willing to consider the furlough, rather than seeing colleagues' positions cut. Mrs. Paul said that when we gave up the first vacancies in cuts taken in previous budget years, we thought that by now we would be getting them back.

After additional discussion, Mr. Fitzgerald made the following motion: "While the Library Board acknowledges the need to bring about some savings, we cannot sanction in any way the elimination of Sunday hours at the Beatley Library; the needs of Alexandria, its families, its senior citizens, its working people, and its new and growing business sector are too important not to have Sunday hours at the Beatley Library." Mrs. Paul seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Mr. Hobson moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:14pm. Mrs. Paul seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.