

4-14-2009

[Maziarka Talking Points]

Ginny Maziarka

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West Bend 4th District Alderman, Nick Dobberstein, abused his position within his district and the West Bend community to lend influence to his personal convictions concerning the library policy requests we (now known as WBCFSL, West Bend Citizens for Safe Libraries) submitted.

To date, we have not spoken with any library board members, nor has there been any direct communication of any type between us. The WBCFSL is currently awaiting acceptance within the agenda of the next board meeting. We have fairly complied with all of the library director's/library board's requests thus far. Though we did not agree with the City Attorney, Mary Schanning, or Mr. Tyree, on the **unilateral withdrawal of our original complaint, we have started the process over respectfully**, as requested by both.

On 04/13/09, a constituent emailed Dobberstein with information about an oppositional petition they were circulating, asking for the information to be shared with others. Alderman Dobberstein forwarded the email to his constituents and others in his email address book, making his position public concerning the library issue requests.

Alderman Dobberstein's choice to **petition against the WBCFSL while acting as library board member, and representative of the taxpayers**, is completely malapropos. **We feel this is a hindrance to any decision the library will be making concerning our group's requests for policy creation, an inappropriate misuse of his aldermanic position, and shameful behavior of a library board member, whom we had hoped would remain fair and impartial, acting as an advocate on behalf of ALL citizens.**

After notification of his biased and inappropriate actions by another constituent, it appears that Mr. Dobberstein has furthered his efforts to discredit our group's requests by **sending out another email.**

Though he states this second email was being sent out of "**fairness**" to us, it was quite the opposite. In this second email, **he accuses the WBCFSL of censorship and shares a controversial and oppositional link to a website where our group is personally attacked and ridiculed in a raunchy and crude manner.**

Just over a week ago, on behalf of WBCFSL, we supplied Mr. Dobberstein with a copy of the full power point we shared with the community on March 26th. We included our personal contact information and website address, which was not the website listed within his email. The website Mr. Dobberstein passes on out of "**fairness**" does not contain the link to the library petition (though we have added it as of last night due to this misinformation), nor does it have complete information about the library issue. **It is not the website we gave to him.**

Mr. Dobberstein has clearly taken his opinion on this matter to a new level.

We brought our concerns to the City Mayor, Kristine Deiss. We asked for Alderman Dobberstein's removal from the library board or, at the very least, his abstinence from any vote that could be taken concerning the library issue currently being addressed. Her response is below:

04/14/09

Mr. & Mrs. Maziarka,

I will assume that this is the issue you wished to speak to me about when you left your phone message at my home while I was celebrating Easter this weekend with my family.

Alderman Dobberstein, as well as the other members of the Library Board, certainly have the right to speak their views on any issue facing the Board. It is no different than any of the alderman who serve on the Common Council. They are certainly free to speak out on any of the issues that come before the Council and they often do. It appears that the only reason you want Alderman Dobberstein removed is because he disagrees with your viewpoint. I see no reason to remove him from the Library Board nor any of the other members for voicing their opinions be it pro or con on any issue before them. As I stated to you previously, any formal complaints made to the Library will be handled by the procedure they have in place. If it comes before the Board, I do not feel it is the place of the Mayor to coerce, threaten, or dictate what course of action they are to take. It will be their decision; not mine and not yours. I know there are strong emotions on both sides of this issue, but I am confident that if this does come before the Board, their decision will be what they think is best for all.

Kristine M. Deiss
Mayor, City of West Bend

Mayor Deiss went on to state publicly to the West Bend News:

West Bend Mayor, Kristine Deiss, said she will not delay appointing members to the city's Library Board, even though a local couple wants the appointments tabled until their complaint about sexually explicit books at the library is decided.

And

"I don't see why," Deiss said Friday when asked if she would consider tabling the Library appointments. "Nobody's given me a good reason."

We disagree with Mayor Deiss in that we feel we gave sufficient reason(s) in our previous communication with her, namely:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT (CODE OF ETHICS) 1.65
SUBCHAPTER IV: CODE OF ETHICS

1.65 DECLARATION OF POLICY. The proper operation of democratic government requires that public officials and employees be independent, **impartial and responsible to the people**; that government decisions and policy be made in proper channels of the government structure; **that public office not be used for personal gain**; and that the **public have confidence in the integrity of its government**. In recognition of these goals, there is hereby established a Code of Ethics for all City officials and employees, whether elected or appointed, paid or unpaid, including members of boards, committees and commissions of the City. The purpose of this code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all such employees and officials by setting forth those acts or actions that are incompatible with the best interests of the City and by directing disclosure by such officials and employees of private financial or other interests in matters affecting the City.

1.66 RESPONSIBILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICE. Public officials and employees are agents of public purpose and hold office **for the benefit of the public**. They are bound to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State and carry out impartially the laws of the nation, State and the City and to observe in their official acts the **highest standards of morality** and to discharge faithfully the duties of their office **regardless of personal considerations, recognizing that the public interest must be their prime concern**.

Their conduct in both their official and private affairs should be **above reproach** so as to foster respect for all government.

(2) OBLIGATIONS TO CITIZENS. **No City official or employee shall grant any special consideration, treatment or advantage to any citizen beyond that which is available to every other citizen.**

-----Original Message-----

From: ginny4him2@aol.com

To: mayor@ci.west-bend.wi.us

Sent: Mon, 13 Apr 2009 10:20 pm

Subject: Alderman confirms his position in second email

Dear Mayor Deiss,

This email is in followup to the previous email we sent to you today regarding the actions of Alderman Dobberstein. It appears that Mr. Dobberstein has furthered his efforts to discredit our group's requests by sending out the email below.

Though he states this email was being sent out of "fairness" to us, he accuses us of censorship and shares a controversial and oppositional link to a website where we are personally attacked and ridiculed in a raunchy and crude manner.

Just over a week ago, we supplied Mr. Dobberstein with a copy of the full power point we shared with the community on March 26th. We included our name, phone number and website address, which was not the website listed below. The website Mr. Dobberstein passes on out of "fairness" does not contain the link to the library petition, nor does it have complete information about the library issue. It is not the website we gave to him.

Mr. Dobberstein has clearly taken his opinion on this matter to a new level. His unprofessional behavior should be disappointing to his district constituents, and it is most certainly an embarrassment to the City of West Bend.

We request his immediate removal from the library board.

Sincerely,

Jim and Ginny Maziarka
3583 Starlite Drive
West Bend, WI 53095
262-677-9032

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Nick Dobberstein"

nick.dobberstein@charter.net<<mailto:nick.dobberstein@charter.net>>>

To: <Undisclosed-Recipient:;>

Subject: Petition Followup

Date: Mon, 13 Apr 2009 16:31:45 -0500

A few days ago I forwarded to a few friends a resident's link to a site and petition against censoring, labeling, or re-categorizing materials at the West Bend Library.

Out of fairness, I'm writing now to share a link to a petition from the

Marziarkas which calls for censoring, labeling, and re-categorizing of materials:

<http://randallmelchert.files.wordpress.com/2009/03/westbendpetition.pdf>

Here's an additional article about the topic if you are interested:

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/42239872.html>

In addition, a couple blog sites speak to the issue as well:

<http://eema-le.blogspot.com/2009/04/some-good-old-fashioned-book-burning.html>

<http://wbcommunityinfo.blogspot.com/>

We respectfully oppose, and are offended by, the use of the "eema-le" blog, as this person's statements were inflammatory and accusatory towards us in a personal way. In what way did Alderman Dobberstein feel this particular website (when he could have simply directed people to Maria Hanrahan's site, since it was her petition that he forwarded) spoke to the issue?

Alderman's behavior in this matter is both unethical and unprofessional, definitely not in accordance with our City's Code of Ethics. We ask that you advocate on our behalf and address both Alderman Dobberstein and Mayor Deiss, holding them accountable to the Code that is promised to the citizens of the City of West Bend.