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Alderman/Library Board Member Nick Dobberstein

Kristine Deiss

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Don't know if you're still collecting for the Open Records request or not, but if so...

Kristine M. Deiss
Mayor, City of West Bend

Dear Mayor Deiss,

Yes, you are correct in assuming this is the issue we wanted to discuss with you on Saturday, the day before Easter. We were also celebrating with our family when we were informed of this issue. We would have liked your advice prior to today, but that, unfortunately, did not happen.

While we agree that Alderman Dobberstein has a right to his views, we do not agree with you that we want him removed for the sole reason that he, obviously, does not agree with our group's position regarding the library issue. As stated before, we find it quite disturbing that an alderman would send out an email that would encourage others to take action against us, but the most concerning was his second email that sent two links that were supposed to give opposing viewpoints. The first link was to a blog that gave misinformation about us personally, and not provided by the opposing constituent whatsoever.

We would hope that Alderman Dobberstein would want to GET input from his constituents (how does he know where they stand if he is only offering one side of the story?), not promote his personal agenda.

If you find this acceptable behavior for an alderman and library board member, then we feel you do not understand, and are out of touch with, the community and the citizens you serve.

Thank you for your response,

Jim and Ginny Maziarka

-----Original Message-----
From: Deiss, Kristine <mayor@ci.west-bend.wi.us>
To: 
Cc: 
Sent: Tue, 14 Apr 2009 6:30 pm
Subject: RE: Alderman/Library Board Member Nick Dobberstein

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

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2009 11:54 AM
To: Deiss, Kristine
Subject: Alderman/Library Board Member Nick Dobberstein

Dear Mayor Deiss,

It has come to our attention that Alderman Nick Dobberstein has forwarded the email petition information below to persons within his aldermanic district and beyond.

We feel that 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 complaint, we have started the process over respectfully, as requested by both.

Alderman Dobberstein's choice to petition against us 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 the ALL citizens.

We are calling for Alderman Nick Dobberstein's immediate removal from the library board in concurrence with the information above, and the evidence presented in the email below. At the very LEAST, we insist Alderman Dobberstein be barred from voting on this issue, should the library board consider it on the agenda at any further board meetings.

Sincerely,

Jim and Ginny Maziarka, Advocates
West Bend Citizens for Safe Libraries
677-9032
3583 Starlite Drive
West Bend, WI 53095

-------- Forwarded Message --------
From: "Nick Dobberstein" <nick.dobberstein@charter.net>
To: <Undisclosed-Recipient:>
Subject: Fw: West Bend Citizens for Free Speech News-Sign the Petition
Date: Fri, 10 Apr 2009 11:58:28 -0500

---- Original Message ----
From: Maria Hanrahan
To: Maria Hanrahan
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2009 9:41 AM
Subject: West Bend Citizens for Free Speech News-Sign the Petition