

**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: March 12, 2024

TIME: 6:31 p.m.

PLACE: Lingos Trustee Room & Zoom

PRESENT: Jocelyn Meek, Chairperson; Matthieu Delisme & Paul Engle, Library Director
Zoom- Jorge Vega, Vice Chair; Phyllis Ellis; Lisa O'Donnell, Margaret Mone; Joseph Policape & Aminah Pilgrim

ABSENT: NONE

VISITORS: Frank Ciarfella; Jacquie Rose-zoom

RECORDING: Sandra Reed

TOPIC/AGENDA	FINDINGS/DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW-UP
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1. Hearing of Visitors

Frank Ciarfella wanted to bring to the Trustees attention, issue he has observed with the Foundation.
He is no longer a member because he feels they are discriminatory and prejudicial with the programs they help the library fund
He doesn't feel like money is being donated back to the library and feels that they can do better
He feels that they are not supportive of some events (ie Black History Month Program) which brought in 63 people and the Foundation was not involved
He feels that people get confused between the library and the library foundation, which to him, they are no real service to the library but our using our name to collect money that they are not even giving back to the library as a whole.

Frank would like to start a Friends of the Library group if the foundation doesn't step up in a more productive way for us

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Approval of minutes from January 9, 2024 as submitted.

Approval of minutes by Margaret Mone, second by Lisa O'Donnell; voted unanimous

3. Chairman's Report -None

4. Director's Report

Got quote for new floor in Lingos Auditorium from Kennedy Carpet and Paramount Rug. Both quotes were vastly different but at this point do not know if we can afford it.

Will table discussion until the budget is set

5. Driscoll Art Gallery and Meeting Room

1) Art Gallery Policy: All of the revisions in RED are Paul's suggestions. All revisions in BLUE are Kevin's suggestions.

Accept changes to policy and clarifying of language- Motion to approve Art Room changes by Jorge Vega, second by Phyllis Ellis; voted unanimous

2) Meeting Room – fee schedule- increase pricing for profit organizations

Make rates hourly instead of a flat rate. Rates will be billable in two-hour periods.

Circulation lobby will now be available to book \$100/non-profit and \$200 profit (two-hour period)

Driscoll Art Gallery with coincide with the Lingos Auditorium (Multi-Purpose Room) and the Circulation lobby (see above)

The rates for renting a room when the library is closed, has also increased an extra \$100/nonprofit and an extra \$200 for profit organizations

Motion to approve all changes as described above by Lisa O'Donnell, second by Jorge Vega; voted unanimous

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6. Old Business

Build Goals for the Director

This will be moved to the April Agenda
Prior goals will be emailed to Trustees again

Lisa made Trustees aware that the last employee survey & climate meetings were in March/April 2021
The findings were presented to the board in May of 2021

Will start to plan to do this again

Phyllis asked how the letter to the 1199 group about not following procedure went over.

The letter seemed to have helped. No know issues at this time

7. New Business

Budget: Paul had his budget meeting with the Mayor. For the mayors proposed budget, he wants to cut the library budget lines for Electricity, Energy, Vehicle Repair, Dept. Equip, Public Safety, Printing and Security & Fire.

If the mayor enacts these cuts our State Aid Award may be in jeopardy. If the budget goes too low we could lose our certification. Paul is going to sit with Troy to crunch numbers and make sure the number doesn't drop below what we need. Paul may have to go to the MBLC ~ 10% cuts could mean a \$300,000 loss
The mayors final budget proposal has not been given to Paul yet, so there is still time to advocate for the library

If we have to cut back, we really need the foundation to step up and support with programming in a more robust way. These are the times the foundation is for.

It was recommended by the Trustees that Paul sit down with his dept heads and make a list of priorities or big asks from the foundation. Then sit down with Donna and Nicole and see if they can help with those.

Paul was asked by the Trustees on what he needed from them to help promote zero cuts for the library. Paul would like them to personal talk to the Mayor to discuss what the cuts would mean to the community. Getting a waiver from the State, if State Aid guidelines are not met, isn't hard but it is a lot of work. Overall consensus is that the best course of action is to ask Mayor not to cut too deep.

Jorge made the statement that with Brockton under so much scrutiny, one of the corner stones of the city should not be cut. We would be losing incredible programs and now is not the time for another bad story about Brockton

8. Old Business

NAACP 3rd Annual Phenomenal Women's Event taking place on Sat March 16- Donna Frett-BLF President and Dr. Liza Talusan- Jorge's wife are being honored

9. Executive session (as needed)

10. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 7:32 pm

Motion by Margaret Mone, second by Lisa O'Donnell;
voted unanimous.