

**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: February 11, 2025

TIME: 6:32 p.m.

PLACE: Zoom Only

PRESENT: Jocelyn Meek, Chairperson; Jorge Vega, Vice Chair (left at 6:57); Lisa O'Donnell; Matthieu Delisme (entered at 6:54); Phyllis Ellis; Margaret Mone; Elaine Gatewood & Paul Engle, Library Director

ABSENT: Joseph Policape & Aminah Pilgrim

VISITORS: Frank Ciarfella

RECORDING: Sandra Reed

| TOPIC/AGENDA | FINDINGS/DISCUSSION | RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS | FOLLOW-UP |
|---------------------------------|--|---|-----------|
| 1. Hearing of Visitors | Frank wanted to have a follow up discussion on the Foundation. Fundraising efforts have not been stepped up according to him. Library website page for the foundation says 100% of donations go to the library system and he feel like this is misleading. Some raffle items have not been delivered to the people who won at the last Gala Paul would like the Liberty Tree refinished so Frank contacted Southeastern Regional and they are taking on the project. Frank would like to see the signage redo Too. His thought is to have a Black History Month program around this and then have an unveiling on Juneteenth | | |
| 2. Acceptance of Minutes | Approval of minutes from January 28, 2025 with date correction. Minutes submitted for review were dated January 14, 2025 | Approval of minutes by Phyllis Ellis, second by Margaret Mone; with correction; voted unanimous | |
| 3. Board Elections | Jocelyn Meek nominated Jorge Vega for Chair- second by Margaret Mone; nomination accepted and voted unanimous Phyllis Ellis nominated Jocelyn Meek for Vice Chair- second by Margaret Mone; nomination accepted and voted unanimous | | |
| 4. Strategic Plan | - will have both meetings for public input on March 5, 2025. As the city will have a dept head meeting that day, Paul would like to have a lunch session and invite them. Have lunch catered from somewhere, in hopes that they will come. Paul will do a brief presentation and then open it up to discussion, to see where the public wants the library to be in 5 years. Jocelyn will be the recording secretary for both sessions. Will have paper copies of the strategic plan survey out for this, including ones in other languages. Paul will look into finding someone to check our translations | | |
| 5. FY26 submitted Budget | Hopefully this budget season will go smoother this year than it did last. Paul asked for a little more than what our MAR requirement is. The mayor has been close to the vest with information regarding this budget season. Paul has not heard anything either way. There has been no word with the current government administration about MBLC funding. Paul learned that not all of our State Aid comes from IMLS funding. Questions about the library preparedness- Paul has only heard from Troy that we always meet deadlines and we never go over budget. Paul has not heard about where we rank amongst other departments but from what he can gather through emails, not all departments are on time with the deadlines Finance gives, when requesting information for the budget. | | |
| 6. Old Business | - Checking in on the fiction ordering. Are we ordering new and current titles that keep up with current trends? The floor in Lingos came out nice. The mayor is now having a street sweeper coming by the main library fairly often. Paul did have to text Mayor Monday about the library lots not being plowed. Took about 1 hour to rectify. Our homeless population situation is still very fluid | | |

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7. **New Business-** Trustees wondering if there has been any ICE interaction- Paul stated none at our library but he is setting up with a coalition to train the staff and community on what to do in case of a raid. Would like to have classes at the library and we have also printed out information from MIRA foundation to hand out. We are currently in the education stage and we are communicating that to the public. Paul is in state-wide groups with meetings held weekly, to talk about ideas to educate public and be prepared. General consensus is that our community is very scared. Trustees would like to see about getting back a social worker for the library to help in these situations

Discussion of BHM programs here at the library- Phillip is doing BHM poetry program. Phyllis/NAACP is still putting together a BHM trivia program
Jocelyn is requesting Paul talk to the Mayor about re-electing entire Board of Trustees to a new- three-year term ASAP

8. **Executive session (as needed)**

9. **Adjournment** Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 pm Motion by Phyllis Ellis, second by Margaret Mone; voted unanimous.