

BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, January 23rd, 2018

5:30 p.m.

William C. Wetzel Reading Room
205 E. Olive Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

Minutes

- I. Call to Order
President Cardona called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call

Members Present: Alicia Henry, Kiasha Henry, Dianne Hollister, Van Miller, Susan Mohr, Matt Watchinski, Julian Westerhout, Alicia Whitworth, Alex Cardona

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jeanne Hamilton, Kathy Jeakins, Karen Moen, Maria Nagle, Pantagraph, Renee Nestler, AFSCME 31 Staff Representative, Rachel Park, Stephen Peterson, GPPLD Board President, Caprice Prochnow, Gayle Tucker
- III. Introduction of Public
New Board Trustee, Matt Watchinski introduced himself, and shared a little of his background. President Cardona asked the guests in attendance to introduce themselves.
- IV. Public Comment
There were no public comments.
- V. Executive Session – Collective Negotiating Matters (5 ILCS 120/2(c))
It was determined that there was no need to recess into Executive Session.
- VI. President’s Report
President Cardona had some comments on all of the media attention and public speculation regarding the expansion and the Joint Meeting, and the Board’s collaborative, responsible response to all of it.
President Cardona stated that this Board is focused on the strategic view and plan on how they will move the Library forward from year to year and decade to decade. Along with this, the Board will try not to micromanage the staff, will empower them instead, and will hold them accountable to handle the daily responsibilities.
- VII. Director’s Report
Director Hamilton shared that she submitted the annual Per Capita Grant, and she distributed it for the Trustees to peruse. She went on to say that the Library was awarded last year’s Per Capita Grant, but a check has not yet been received.

Director Hamilton reminded the Trustees that there are Executive Session minutes to be reviewed, and that they will be on the February agenda for approval.

Director Hamilton shared that there is a Trustee Forum Workshop in Oakbrook, IL. She distributed the information on it, and asked the Trustees to let her know if they would like to attend.

Director Hamilton stated that a challenge was received from one of the companies that submitted a proposal for the self-check system replacement. She went on to say that they were questioning why another company was selected as their bid was the lowest. Director Hamilton stated she, Jon Whited and Kathy Jeakins have been formulating a response, and have consulted City Legal and Procurement on this to make sure that all the processes were followed correctly.

Director Hamilton reminded the Trustees of the ILA Legislative Breakfast on January 29 at the Bloomington-Normal Marriot Hotel in Normal, IL.

VIII. Fiscal Report Presentation

Kathy Jeakins, Business Manager, reported that revenues are at almost 98% and expenditures are at 53%. She went on to say that all the property tax distributions have been received.

She entertained questions. There was a question regarding fundraising, and Director Hamilton stated that this had been put on hold with so many discussions happening. She went on to say, that with so many questions on the Library expansion, it is challenging to fundraise when it is uncertain as to the purpose of the funds. Director Hamilton shared that she and President Cardona have been talking to the Foundation Board about future fundraising, and the hope is that the Foundation will be heavily involved in this. She went on to say that she and Rhonda Massie, Marketing Manager, are both taking a class on Advocacy and Fundraising Efforts for Libraries, and it has been very interesting so far.

IX. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Minutes of December 19, 2017 Regular BPL Board Meeting

B. Approve Minutes of January 16, 2018 Special Session Meeting with City Council and Connect Transit Board

C. Approve Bills List of December 2017

JULIAN WESTERHOUT MOVED, KIASHA HENRY SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH THE EMENDATION TO IX.D OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2017 MINUTES. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

X. Regular Action Items

A. Approve Renewal of Lynda.com

Julian Westerhout shared some statistics on the use of Lynda.com over the last year, such as the usage has almost doubled, and the cost per user is \$18.80. He went on to say that if a person signed up for this directly, it would cost them \$30 per month. There was discussion on what Julian shared.

KIASHA HENRY MOVED, JULIAN WESTERHOUT SECONDED, TO APPROVE RENEWAL OF LYNDACOM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,125.00.

AYES: Alicia Henry, Kiasha Henry, Dianne Hollister, Van Miller, Susan Mohr, Matt Watchinski, Julian Westerhout, Alicia Whitworth, Alex Cardona

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Approve Bargaining Unit Contract

Director Hamilton stated that the information is included in the packet, and the changes to the agreement are outlined as well as the full agreement showing the changes. She went on to say that the negotiations began last March, and the Union has approved these changes. The Board will be the second party to approve, and then this will go to City Council on February 12 for approval.

JULIAN WESTERHOUT MOVED, DIANNE HOLLISTER SECONDED, TO APPROVE BARGAINING UNIT CONTRACT AS PRESENTED.

AYES: Alicia Henry, Kiasha Henry, Dianne Hollister, Van Miller, Susan Mohr, Matt Watchinski, Julian Westerhout, Alicia Whitworth, Alex Cardona

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Appointment of New Member to Foundation Board

President Cardona shared that Mike Raikes resigned from the Board, and with this, his seat on the Foundation Board needs to be filled. He went on to say that he would like to appoint Alicia Whitworth to the Foundation as she is very versed in fundraising.

JULIAN WESTERHOUT MOVED, DIANNE HOLLISTER SECONDED, TO APPROVE ALICIA WHITWORTH BEING APPOINTED TO THE FOUNDATION BOARD. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

XI. Library Expansion Items

A. Discussion on Library Expansion Timeline & Joint Meeting

President Cardona stated that Jeanne did a great job of creating the timeline for the Joint Meeting last week.

There was discussion as to what transpired at the Joint Meeting last week. Some points that were brought up were that there has not been any discussion as to how the residents around the Market Street garage may be impacted, Connect Transit representatives did not really promote the collaboration, parties involved have really not had a lot of communication with each other, the Bring It On Bloomington report came out in 2011 and since then no studies have even been done to move ideas forward, and Council is not unified on this idea.

President Cardona stated that the Library has done its due diligence over the past 18 years repeatedly, by talking to the community, hiring experts, and having come to the same conclusion of an expansion being needed. He went on to say that every time, in going to Council, the Library receives a slight approval, partial approval, approval getting pulled back or being requested to do further research.

President Cardona stated that this is the opportunity for the Library Board to lead by example with coalition building, and collaboration and consensus. He went on to say that the Library Board has been waiting for direction from City Council, now is the time for the Board to give City Council direction.

Director Hamilton shared that Scott Black proposed that Council reserve every fifth Monday to hold joint meetings. She went on to say that she can explore this further, and if Council has an open fifth Monday, she can try to get the Board on the docket.

President Cardona stated that if any Trustees would like to meet with another Board or organization, please let he and Director Hamilton know. He went on to say that he and Director Hamilton will be meeting with Home Sweet Home Ministries in a few weeks to

give them the update of where the Library is with all of this, and to keep up this coalition building. President Cardona stated that he and Director Hamilton have met with both the City Planner and the Community Development Division, along with the sports teams at the arena to keep these discussions going.

B. Approve Farnsworth Contract Amendment No. 1

President Cardona stated that when he and Director Hamilton met with Council, the feedback was that they would like to see more information as far as timelines, phases, and money that would be spent. If an expansion was set to happen, how soon could Public Works vacate, how much would that cost, and how would this impact the City. The next piece would be the bond schedule as things roll off, and what would the timing look like for that.

There was discussion on what Farnsworth is proposing as to whether it is going to provide the information to Council that President Cardona just reviewed that they are wanting. It was proposed that this amendment be approved with an “up to” amount that would allow for the changes that Farnsworth would be asked to make to the amendment.

VAN MILLER MOVED, DIANNE HOLLISTER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE FARNSWORTH CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 1 WITH PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,850.00 PLUS \$250.00 IN REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES.

AYES: Van Miller, Alex Cardona

NAYES: Alicia Henry, Kiasha Henry, Dianne Hollister, Susan Mohr, Matt Watchinski, Julian Westerhout, Alicia Whitworth

ABSENT: None

THE MOTION FAILED.

With this item failing, a straw poll was taken to ascertain if the Trustees were in favor of proceeding with an expansion at this site, and asking President Cardona to make a formal request of Farnsworth for a revised proposal to be brought forward next month for an official vote. With one nay, the consensus was to move forward with this.

XII. Comments from Board of Trustees

Julian Westerhout stated that he will have to leave early from the February Board meeting as he is on the Board of BIKE BLONO, and he will attend the showing of the movie, Breaking Away at the Normal Theatre that evening.

XIII. Adjournment

VAN MILLER MOVED, KIASHA HENRY SECONDED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

President Cardona adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.