

December 10, 2013

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Worcester Public Library was called to order at 5:06 p.m. at the Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square, Worcester, MA.

Directors Present:

Susan Gately
Judy Finkel
James Kersten
Deborah Packard
Joshua Perro
Phyllis Harrington
Dianne Bruce
Dante Comparetto
William S. Coleman, III
Jyoti Datta
Tara Young
Tracey Leger-Hornby

Staff Present:

Wei Jeng-Chu
John Weedon
Denise Faucher
Elizabeth Giangrande
Paula Korstvedt
Pingsheng Chen
Denise McGinley
Mary Pepper
Ann Dallaire
Katrina Ireland
Kate Grey
Rebecca Folbe
Ming Huynh
Michelle Bolduc
Ron Waddell

Guests present:

Nona Haroyan
James Izatt
Steve Foskett
William Belcher
Robert Sorrenti

1. Call to Order.

1.1 Gately called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

2. Minutes of November 12, 2013. Gately asked if there were any changes to the minutes.
Finkel moved, seconded by Packard to delete the 2nd paragraph of item #6 from the minutes and move it to the December 10, 2013 agenda.
Finkel moved, seconded by Perro to approve the minutes of November 12, 2013 with changes.
The minutes of November 12, 2013 were approved.

3. President's Report.

Gately thanked Datta and Young for the work they did during their term. Gately also thanked Jeng-Chu for her service to the Library and wished her well in her retirement. Gately announced the new Board members would be William Belcher, Tracey Leger-Hornby and Collins Nuameh. Gately explained the nomination process to the two new Board members.

Gately brought the Board up-to-date on the Tatnuck Branch opening; the anticipated February date for the Goddard Branch and a May date for the Burncoat Branch.

Gately reported that the Search Committee would meet again on December 17, 2013 at 4:00 and all Board members were welcome to attend.

Nominations: Gately called for nominations as follows:

Secretary: Finkel nominated Comparetto for Secretary (seconded by Kersten)

Treasurer: Kersten nominated Packard for Treasurer (seconded by Harrington)

Comparetto nominated Perro for Treasurer (seconded by Coleman)

Vice President: Packard nominated Kersten (seconded by Coleman)

President: Coleman nominated himself (seconded by Perro)

Kersten nominated Gately (seconded by Comparetto)

Finkel nominated Packard (seconded by Perro)

4. Head Librarian's Report.

Jeng-Chu thanked the Board for entrusting the Library to her for this past year and for the support they gave her. Jeng-Chu asked Faucher to introduce all of the new hires that were present at the meeting.

5. Talking Book Advisory.

Nona Haroyan and James Izatt addressed the Board as to the accessibility issues with the self-check system and passed out literature from LATcorp which has VOD capability.

Finkel moved, seconded by Kersten, that the Administration discuss accessibility for the blind and visually impaired with the vendors of the self-check system and report the findings to the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

6. Finance Committee Report, Packard.

6.1 Packard reported on the November 12, 2013 Finance Committee meeting. Finkel moved, seconded by Bruce to accept the Finance Committee report of November 12, 2013.

7. Committee on Administration, Finkel.

7.1 Finkel reported that the Committee met and approved five new hires.

7.2 Finkel requested the Board's approval for the Committee on Administration to have authority to approve any recommended positions prior to the January 2014 Board.

Bruce moved, seconded by Perro to approve the Committee on Administration report.

Bruce moved, seconded by Perro to approve giving the Committee on Administration authority through January 14, 2014 to approve recommended positions.

8. Search Committee, Gately.

8.1 Gately reported that the Search Committee is ready to look at the resumes that have been received to date.

9. Community Services Committee, Comparetto.

9.1 Comparetto reported that the Community Services Committee discussed the Library's hours of operation and whether it would be feasible to have one more late evening and that the Library Administration was going to look at either adding hours or adjusting hours.

9.2 Comparetto also reported that the Committee felt that greeting cards were not an appropriate function of the Library and that Coleman was welcome to attend the next Community Services Committee. Coleman stated that he would discuss the matter with the Committee.

Kersten moved, seconded by Packard to approve the Community Services Committee report.

10. Friends Update, Comparetto.

10.1 Comparetto reported that security is still an issue. Kersten suggested that the Head Librarian prepare a summary of how many incidents there have been at the Library recently and report the same to the Board.

11. WPL Foundation, Kersten.

11.1 Kersten turned the floor over to Sorrenti who reported that an Executive Director would be named at week's end.

12. Library District Task Force.

12.1 Finkel reported that she attended a meeting recently and learned that a Community Action Committee was being formed and that Comparetto and Donna McGrath both were interested in it.

13. Adjournment.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Jyoti Datta, Secretary

(Recorded by Denise H. McGinley)