

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Worcester Public Library was called to order at 5:03pm on February 14, 2017 at the Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square, Worcester, MA.

Directors Present:

Judy Finkel  
Jim Comes  
Stephanie Pasha  
Anne O'Connor  
Joshua Perro  
Katherine Bagdis  
Michelle Keane  
Matt Bejune  
John Carnege  
Robert Sorrenti

Directors Absent:

Collins Nuamah  
Toby Pedone

Staff Present:

Geoffrey Dickinson  
Cara Stone  
Pingsheng Chen  
Paula Korstvedt  
Sulma Rubert-Silva  
Cynthia Bermudez  
James Estrella

Guests Present:

Ruth Kowal

1. Call to Order.  
Finkel called the meeting to order at 5:03p.m.
2. Presentation, Long Range Plan Draft – Ruth Kowal  
Ms. Kowal presented the draft of the proposed five-year strategic plan and described the process for creating the plan based on the many feedback opportunities. Dickinson noted that the plan is a future-focused document, rather than an historical overview. Once this plan is approved, the library staff will be tasked with creating action plans in alignment with the strategic plan. Bejeune asked if the four goals in the strategic plan will be incorporated into the performance goals of the head librarian. Finkel indicated that they would. The Board will be asked to formally ratify the plan at the March meeting.
3. Approval of January 10, 2017 Minutes  
Finkel presented the minutes from the January 10, 2017 minutes and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. There was a motion and a second, and the minutes were approved as submitted.
4. President's Report – Judy Finkel  
Finkel congratulated Ms. Cara Stone on her recent honor of having received the Eleanor Riik Award for Outstanding Service. She reminded Board members to be mindful of their new committee assignments and the meeting dates for those committees. She also noted that the Board is responsible for reviewing library policy

changes that are recommended by the staff. She invited Board members to participate in the February 28, 2017 Staff Recognition event. Finally, she presented the idea of a Board retreat in the near future. The Executive Committee will discuss this idea at their next meeting.

5. Head Librarian's Report – Geoffrey Dickinson

Dickinson reviewed his written report briefly. He added that the Community Service Committee was reviewing a proposal to extend library hours to later in the evening. This has staffing and budget implications that require careful consideration.

6. Finance Committee Report – James Comes

Comes shared that the Finance Committee had met in December and had approved funding for the Staff Recognition/Outgoing Board Member event. Finkel asked for a motion to accept the report of the Finance Committee. There was a motion and a second, and the report of the finance committee was accepted.

7. Community Services Report – Michelle Keane

Keane reported that the committee had discussed and approved the holiday hours for 2017. Finkel asked for a motion to approve the holiday hours. There was a motion and a second, and the holiday hours were approved. Finkel asked for a motion to accept the report of the Community Service Committee. There was a motion and a second, and the report was accepted.

8. WPL Foundation Report – Kate Bagdis

Bagdis reported that the Foundation has named Libby as a priority for their fundraising plans. To date, the Foundation has raised \$17K against a \$200K need. The Foundation will also be working to raise funds for the renovation of the children's area. The development committee is looking at corporate solicitations to help with these projects. She reported that the Authors Event in October raised more than \$50K, which was more than was raised in 2015. She also noted that donor recognition signage is being designed. Finkel asked for a motion to accept the report of the Foundation. There was a motion and a second, and the report of the WPL Foundation was accepted.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.