

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Worcester Public Library was called to order at 5:05pm on May 9, 2017 at the Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square, Worcester, MA.

Directors Present:

Judy Finkel  
Jim Comes  
Anne O'Connor  
Katherine Bagdis  
Michelle Keane  
Matt Bejune  
John Carnegie  
Robert Sorrenti

Directors Absent:

Joshua Perro  
Stephanie Pasha (excused)  
Guest Present:  
Gayle Gifford, consultant

Staff Present:

Geoffrey Dickinson  
Pingsheng Chen  
Paula Korstvedt  
Cynthia Bermudez  
Chrissy Murray

1. Call to Order

Finkel called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

2. Approval of April 11, 2017 minutes

Finkel proposed an amendment to Section 7 of the minutes, the Administration Committee Report, to include 5.2.4. Bejune confirmed that 5.2.4 will wait to be approved in June 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

O'Connor moved to approve the amended April 11, 2017 minutes. Bejune seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. President's Report, Finkel

Finkel reminded the Board of the retreat following the meeting; she announced that the election to replace Nuamah would take place at City Hall on May 30, 2017. She also reminded the Board that the WPL budget hearing will be on May 30, 2017 at 4:00pm.

Bejune moved to remove 5.2.4d from by-laws of Board. Sorrenti seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Finkel reviewed the Board attendance policy and announced that Perro has missed three consecutive meetings. She reported that she would inform city clerk and mayor that his position has been abandoned. Carnegie moved that Finkel present written record in regards to vacancy of Board of Directors position to be sent to mayor and city council. Bagdis seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Finkel reminded the Board that the Administration Committee is responsible for creating goals for the Head Librarian performance review. Any feedback of Dickinson's performance should be sent to Bejune by end of May. The Administration Committee will conduct the initial review in June and present to the full Board for approval at the

September Board meeting. Bejune said he would send out template with goals and basis of review.

4. Head Librarian's Report, Dickinson

Dickinson reminded the Board that the WPL budget hearing will be on May 30 at 4:00pm and encouraged the Board to reach out to city counselors to advocate for the passing of the budget. Finkel asked Dickinson to send out talking points.

Dickinson reported that the new book mobile was purchased and is getting work done. He reported that the Building and Grounds Committee will look at proposals for layouts on May 15. Dickinson requested that the Committee meeting take place at the Frances Perkins Branch, Bagdis, Comes, Sorrenti, and Pedone approved the request.

Dickinson reported that he would provide updates about construction at the next Board meeting after he meets with architects within the next month.

Dickinson reported that some positions were defunded to fund other positions, but the defunded positions were still kept.

Sorrenti pointed out that April 2017 circulation numbers are lower than those from April 2016. Dickinson reported that circulation numbers for the fiscal year are not decreasing overall, but noted that e-book circulation numbers are rising according to C/W MARS. Dickinson reported that he requested circulation statistics from C/W MARS over the past three fiscal years.

Sorrenti inquired about the One City, One Library statistics. Dickinson noted an increasing need for PR around One City, One Library and asked the Board to consider the following questions: Why don't people know that they're public libraries? How do we define these four branches? Carnegie suggested the Board discuss these questions during the retreat and as the strategic plan is being implemented. Finkel noted that the One City, One Library branches fit into Worcester's revitalization plan.

5. Finance Committee Report, Comes

Comes reported that the Finance Committee met on April 11, 2017 and discussed the Board Trust Funds fees being charged by Bartholomew at 16%.

The Committee approved five Trust Fund requests totaling \$69,955.00: \$3,300.00 from the Library Fund for conferences and trainings; \$51,000.00 from the Green Fund for Foundation support; \$4,655.00 from the Green Fund for Collection support; \$2,000.00 from the Green Fund for Board initiative; \$9,000.00 from the Higgins Fund for Foundation support.

Bagdis moved to accept the April 11, 2017 Finance Committee Report. O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

6. Community Services Committee Report, Keane

Keane reported that the Community Services Committee met on April 11, 2017. The Committee reviewed 5.2.6(b) and discussed how Board members could advocate both formally and informally for the WPL. Keane reported that there is a shared Google Doc to brainstorm ideas and that a follow-up meeting would be scheduled to review ideas.

Bejune moved to accept the April 11, 2017 Community Services Report. Carnegie seconded the motion. The motion was accepted.

7. Friends Liaison, Pedone

Pedone did not have a report from the last meeting.

8. WPL Foundation Liaison, Bagdis

Bagdis reported that there had not been a meeting since she last reported to the Board, but will attend the May 10, 2017 meeting at 5:30pm. She reminded the Board of the donor appreciation event on May 18, 2017 and encouraged all to RSVP and attend.

9. Adjournment

O'Connor moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm. Bagdis seconded the motion. The motion was approved.