



MEETING MINUTES
EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, September 18, 2019
6:00 P.M.
Main Library, Community Meeting Room

Members Present: Adam Goodman, Rachel Hayman, Ruth Hays, Denia Hester, Shawn Iles, Margaret Lurie, Vaishali Patel, Benjamin Schapiro and Terry Soto

Members Absent: none

Staff: Karen Danczak Lyons, Teri Campbell, Laura Antolin, Heather Norborg, John Devaney, Jill Skwerski, Connie Henegan, Wynn Shawver, Jan Bojda and Donny Westphal.

Presiding Member: Shawn Iles, President

Call to order/Declaration of Quorum- President Iles called the meeting to order when a quorum of Trustees was achieved at 6:30 pm.

Citizen Comment: Rhea Keenan, Alyce Barry, David DiGioia, Lori Keenan and Oliver Ruff.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Bills and Payroll and Minutes of the August 21, 2019 Board Meeting-** Trustee Schapiro made the motion, Trustee Hayes seconded, and it was approved by voice vote.

Public Hearing: Public Hearing on the FY2020 Proposed Budget

Upon motion by President Iles, second by Trustee Schapiro and approval by voice vote, the Public Hearing on the FY2020 Proposed Budget was opened. President Iles welcomed comment as prescribed by statute. No comments or questions were posed to the Trustees by the audience. The hearing was closed.

Information/Communications:

Heather Norborg (Lifelong Learning & Literacy) and Laura Antolin (Early Learning & Literacy) reported to the board on the 2019 Summer Learning Program 'A Universe of Stories' (presentation attached). Their report was included in the agenda packet for this meeting.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion:

AD Campbell provided an update on the progress of the internal (staff) EDI committee who has selected an on-line racial equity [curriculum](#) to provide staff with ongoing, mandatory opportunities for education and discussion to be implemented beginning January 2020.

The Racial Equity Task Force made up of 8 community members joined by staff and trustees, continues to meet twice monthly to provide direct input on library program and service priorities, communications/marketing, Spanish language translation, budget and future plans to tangibly invest in underserved populations, specifically residents of wards 5, 8, and 9.

Library Director's Report (Distributed in Advanced):

The kickoff event for the Community Mobile Resource Center (CMRC) was held on September 17th at Family Focus. Over 100 residents stopped by to learn about the CMRC directly from organizations that are likely to be presenters, including Community Partners for Affordable Housing, the Moran Center, YWCA, CEDA, and National Able Network. Attendees also enjoyed Hecky's BBQ. This was the kickoff event to highlight a new ongoing monthly programming series, funded in part by a grant from ECF, to support access to legal, personal finance, and health information at a hyper-local location. The pilot runs through December.

Other upcoming events to note: Libraries will be closed on Thursday, October 24th for All Staff Day. Trustees are invited to attend. Dino Robinson of Shorefront Legacy Center will be sharing an overview of Evanston History, with a focus on race.

We will celebrate the 100 days (or so) countdown to the opening of the new Robert Crown branch on Saturday, October 26th from 2:00 - 5:00 under a tent in the parking lot at the current Robert Crown. Features of the celebration include: live music, storytelling with Nestor Gomez and friends, refreshments, crafts, henna painting and information about library services.

Staff Report:

- A. Administrative Services:** AD Campbell updated the board regarding promotions – M. Halka (Engagement), Elizabeth Steimle (Access). Offer letters were issued for additional openings in Access Services. Robert Crown transfers will be offered soon, followed by postings to the public at large. Operating expenditures are at 61% of estimated budget, and revenue collection has reached 90%. Installation of the demountable wall system that will add new study space to the 3rd floor is set to begin next week. Replacement of the emergency fire alarm system will follow.

Board Report/Development:

Trustee Hayman provided information regarding upcoming training opportunities and encouraged the participation of members, noting that many are made available online should attendance be difficult.

Unfinished Business: There was none.

New Business:

- B. Renewal of Lease 900 Chicago Avenue**

Director Danczak-Lyons discussed status of negotiations with the lessor who has not offered an early out clause for 2020, though has agreed to 2 one-year extensions.

- C. Naming rights for Reading Garden at Robert Crown**

Director Danczak-Lyons shared an update from the Friends of Robert Crown who are interested in selling naming rights to raise funds for the capital construction. The final decision will be the purview of the Library Trustees.

Executive Session:

Upon motion made by Trustee Goodman and seconded by Schapiro and approved by voice vote, the meeting moved to Executive Session at 8:34 pm.

Adjournment:

The motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Hayman and seconded by Trustee Patel. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Teri Campbell