



MEETING MINUTES
EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, March 17, 2021
Meeting of the Board
6:30 PM
Virtually, via Zoom

As the result of an executive order issued by Governor J.B. Pritzker suspending in-person attendance requirements for public meetings due to COVID-19, Library Trustees, staff and guests participated in this meeting remotely.

Members Present: Tracy Fulce, Adam Goodman, Rachel Hayman, Shawn Iles, Margaret Lurie, Benjamin Schapiro and Terry Soto

Members Absent: Ruth Hays

Staff Present: Karen Danczak Lyons, Lea Hernandez-Solis, Teri Campbell, Renee Neumeier, Courtney Reed-Tanner, Tyler Works and John Devaney

Presiding Member: Shawn Iles, President

Call to order/Declaration of Quorum: President Iles called the meeting to order when a quorum of Trustees was established at 6:33 p.m.

Citizen Comment: There was no citizen comment.

Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of the Bills and Payroll and Minutes of the February 17, 2021 Board Meeting

Upon motion made by Trustee Lurie and seconded by Trustee Schapiro, the consent agenda was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Together, We are the Library

- Citywide STEM challenges (presentation included in board packet)
Renee Neumeier, Tyler Works and Kirby Callom (D65, Director of EvanSTEM) provided a presentation of the citywide STEM work they completed over the past year which successfully bridges capacity between a number of far-reaching partner organizations and content providers to deliver high quality, impactful opportunities to priority populations of Black, Latinx and girls.
- State of the Art Lighting (John Devaney and Alissa Hansen, environmental engineer Verde Energy Efficiency)
Hansen gave an informational presentation (included in board packet) on a range of options to upgrade the Library with energy efficient lighting needed to reduce our carbon footprint, as the last large public facility to move to a cost-effective solution, and answered questions from the Trustees.
- Strategic Planning
Executive Director Danczak Lyons reported on the progress toward the completion of the updated strategic and work plan. The community survey has been completed, translated, and confirmation of delivery methods to include partner organizations and events is underway. Soon invitations to community listening sessions will be sent.

Discussions are also underway about incentivizing participation to show appreciation and appropriate value.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Joint Task Force):

A. Joint Task Force (Update).

Campbell previewed the upcoming inservice staff training to include mental health first aid, and discussion from the racial equity curriculum applied using local indicators to inform what that means for our work, approach and attitude as we endeavor to serve best. The EDI committee is also weighing options for augmenting internal staff communication in order to help staff know what is in the works before programs and services are in final form for the purpose of efficiency, the potential to layer programs for different age groups, etc.

Director Danczak Lyons led the Racial Equity Task Force (our community advisory group) through a recap of the ABCD conversations that we conducted with the board and community in the lead up to prior operational decisions, and fielded questions from the group about the strategic planning process.

Library Director's Report:

Executive Director DL added to the report (which is included in the board packet) our vigilant pursuit of the \$200M in federal funding for libraries to fulfill their role in the recovery with one-time spending.

Staff Report:

A. Administrative Services Report

Campbell shared brief highlights from the written report (included in the board packet).

Board Development: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

A. Closed Session – Personnel (Library Director Evaluation and Contract)

Upon proper motion made by President Iles seconded by Trustee Hayman and approved by unanimous roll call vote, the Trustees commenced closed session discussion of a personnel matter.

Adjournment:

The motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Schapiro and seconded by Trustee Fulce and approved by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Submitted by: Terry Soto / Teri Campbell