

January 14, 2014

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
Dianne Bruce
Dante Comparetto
William S. Coleman, III
Tracey Leger-Hornby
Collins Nuamah
William Belcher

Director's Absent:

Phyllis Harrington

Staff Present:

John Weedon
Denise McGinley
Denise Faucher
Elizabeth Giangrande
Paula Korstvedt
Pingsheng Chen
Veronica Howley

Guests present:

Steve Foskett
Chrissy Murray
Robert Sorrenti

1. Call to Order.

- 1.1 Weedon called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.
- 1.2 At Weedon's request, Sorrenti introduced Chrissy Murray, the new Executive Director of the Foundation.

2. Board Organizational Meeting.

- 2.1 Weedon asked for a motion or objection to allowing Harrington to vote by proxy as she was out of state.
Bruce moved, seconded by Perro to allow the proxy vote.
President: Weedon read Rules for Directors with regard to the election of new President.
Weedon called out Coleman's name. By a raise of hands Coleman received two votes.
Weedon called out Packard's name. By a raise of hands Packard received 9 votes.
Packard was named President.
Vice President: Kersten's name was called out. By a raise of hands Kersten received 11 votes.

Secretary: Comparetto's name was called out. By a raise of hands Comparetto received 10 votes.

Treasurer: Packard withdrew her nominations as Treasurer.

Perro's name was called out. By a raise of hands Perro received 11 votes.

- 2.2 Ballots were passed out for Finance Committee, after a count of ballots Votes were as follows: Harrington: 7; Belcher: 3; Hornby: 8. The new Finance Committee members are Harrington and Hornby.

- 2.3 Recording Secretary: Comparetto moved, seconded by Finkel to appoint McGinley as the Recording Secretary.

Packard thanked everyone for serving on the Board and thanked Gately for her term as President. Packard asked for everyone at the table to introduce themselves and state briefly why they wanted to serve on the Library Board of Directors.

3. Minutes of December 10, 2013. Packard asked if there were any changes to the minutes. Bruce moved, seconded by Finkel to approve the minutes of December 10, 2013.

The minutes of December 10, 2013 were approved.

4. President's Report.

Packard went over the role of the Board of Directors and stated that the focus needs to be on hiring a head librarian to keep the momentum going. Packard stated that she is open and inclusive and available for any member on the Board. Packard also reminded the Board that email is not a venue for decision making according to the Open Meeting Law. Packard also requested that any press questions go to Elizabeth Giangrande, the Library's Communication Specialist.

A Committee assignment form would be emailed to the Board and Packard asked that the Committees be ranked as to preference, including liaison to the Friends and Foundation.

5. Finance Committee Report, Packard.

- 5.1 Packard reported on December 10, 2013, the Finance Committee approved \$4,772.84 from the Saxe Fund for Programs/Events & Supplies and for Travel and Conference.

Finkel moved, seconded by Bruce to accept the Finance Committee report of December 10, 2013.

6. Committee on Administration, Finkel.

- 6.1 Finkel reported that the Committee met and approved the hire of a Youth Services Coordinator. The Committee also reviewed the Library's internal cash management policy and at the request of the City Treasurer was asked to hold off on a vote based on a meeting between the Library Administration and the City Treasurer.

Coleman moved, seconded by Bruce to approve the Committee on Administration report of January 7, 2014.

Packard moved, seconded by Kersten to delay the vote of the Board with regard to the Cash Management Policy until the February meeting

7. Head Librarian's Report.

Weedon gave an update as to the One City One Library Goddard and Burn coat Branch. Weedon reported that circulation is up at the Main Branch. Weedon also created a Patron Behavior Task Force.

Weedon reported that according to the Law Department it would be necessary for the Board to declare the LVGW space as surplus or excess. Weedon also reported that the Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for February 14, 2014.

8. Friends Update, Comparetto.

8.1 Comparetto reported that the Friends were doing well and security is still an issue.

9. WPL Foundation, Kersten.

9.1 Kersten reiterated Dr. Sorrenti's welcome of Chrissy Murray as Executive Director.

10. New Business.

Belcher asked the Board to look into the Teen Room issue as to the noise level and who is in charge when the librarian steps away; whether or not there is a place for patrons to place complaints, compliments or suggestions; and feels there should be more technology staff on hand. Packard let Belcher know these matters will be referred to committee.

Packard reminded the members that a Board picture would be taken at the February meeting.

Packard asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

Coleman moved, seconded by Bruce to go into Executive Session and to reconvene in order to adjourn.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:28.

11. Adjournment.

There being no further business the Board reconvened and the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Dante Comparetto, Secretary

(Recorded by Denise H. McGinley)