



Rochester
Public Library

More Than You Think

115 South Avenue | Rochester | New York | 14604

**Meeting of the Board of Trustees
via Teleconference
November 17, 2021
Minutes**

RPL Trustees Present: K. Baynes, D. Benjamin, G. Brandt, C. Conklin, A. Drury, S. Futch, G. Gardner, J. Lovenheim, R. Hamilton, D. Karin, S. Salluzzo (quorum present)

RPL Trustees Excused:

Staff and Guests: Mayor's Office liaison, J. Smith; City Council liaison, M. Gruber; City Legal Office liaison, Johanna Brennan; FFRPL liaison, D. Borgus; staff members B. Harrison, M. Lewis, A. Traub, P. Uttaro, D. Mansour

Call to Order

Ms. Benjamin called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m., confirmed a quorum was present, and welcomed trustees, staff, and guests.

Public Comments

There were no members of the public in attendance who wished to address the Board.

Meeting Minutes

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Hamilton AND SECONDED BY Mr. Gardner to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 22, 2021. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Personnel Changes

On behalf of Ms. Suro, Ms. Uttaro called attention to the personnel changes and staffing levels for the period October 12, 2021, to November 5, 2021, and reviewed the changes with trustees.

Ms. Conklin joined the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Lovenheim AND SECONDED BY Mr. Gardner to approve the personnel changes as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial Reports

Ms. Harrison reviewed the financial reports with trustees and offered to answer any questions. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Hamilton AND SECONDED BY Mr. Lovenheim to approve the monthly financial reports as presented, and as approved by the RPL Finance Committee. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Library RPL-MCLS Staff Association Vending Agreement

Ms. Harrison reviewed the action item with trustees and offered to answer any questions. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ms. Drury AND SECONDED BY Ms. Salluzzo to approve an agreement with the RPL-MCLS Staff Association to receive vending commissions in support of Staff Association operations for the period December 1, 2021, through November 30, 2022. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Early Closure of Rundel Building for Special Events

Ms. Uttaro reviewed the action item with trustees and offered to answer any questions. She, with help from Ms. Harrison and Ms. Brennan, answered questions about compensation for use on the library buildings, liability insurance, and library promotions during events like the Rochester Criterium. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Lovenheim AND SECONDED BY Ms. Salluzzo to approve early closure of the Rundel Building first floor on May 13 and October 15, 2022, and full closure on May 21, 2022. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Family Search Agreement

Ms. Uttaro asked trustees who attended the Family Search meeting on Monday to provide feedback on the meeting and opinions on how to proceed. Trustees engaged in a robust discussion. Ms. Brennan stated that she sees no issues with the Board rescinding the prior motion to approve an agreement and considering a new motion.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Lovenheim AND SECONDED BY Mr. Hamilton to rescind the approval to execute the Family Search Agreement. THE MOTION FAILED WITH 4 YES VOTES, 2 NO VOTES, AND 4 ABSTENTIONS.

Ms. Uttaro suggested a group of trustees meet with Ms. Brennan to review the agreement. Mr. Gruber offered to join as well.

Election of Officers

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Brandt AND SECONDED BY Ms. Baynes to approve the slate of officers for 2022. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Drury left the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Friends and Foundation of Rochester Public Library (FFRPL)

Ms. Borgus reviewed her written report and offered to answer any questions. She noted a correction to her written report in the Planned Giving section, the gift from the Anthony Mascioli Trust was \$59,916.

Rochester Public Library Liaison to the Monroe County Library System (MCLS) Board

On behalf of Mr. Lovenheim, Ms. Uttaro reported that the MCLS Board approved a new agreement with TLC, the MCLS Document of Understanding, and the 2022 board meeting dates.

Director's Report

Ms. Uttaro offered to answer any questions about the written report. Mr. Gruber responded to a question about the Foodlink Café. He stated that the Café is doing well, however, the downtown business environment continues to be a challenge with many businesses still utilizing work-from-home models for their staff. Lastly, she reported that she conducted her first in two years in-person presentation about the libraries at the St. John's Community.

Central Library

Mr. Traub offered to answer any questions about the written report. Ms. Salluzzo asked for an update on the renovations in the Secret Room. Ms. Harrison provided an update on the renovation progress. She estimates the official opening will happen in January 2022.

Community Libraries

Ms. Lewis offered to answer any questions about the written report. Ms. Lewis thanked everyone for their contributions to the Roc the Day project in support of the Lincoln Branch renovations. She then highlighted the work of the Monroe Branch in collaborating with The MCLS Outreach Department, FFRPL, and the Center for Youth to provide a mini-library station for families accessing services at the Center for Youth facility.

Other Business

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 10:19 a.m.

Dan Karin, Secretary