

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APRIL 12, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: Alex Knopp, Chairman; Patsy Brescia; Jannie Williams;
Mary Mann; Thomas Cullen; Taber Hamilton; Ralph Bloo

LIBRARY STAFF: Christine Bradley, Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Knopp called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and noted that members were in attendance as listed above and there was a quorum present.

2. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2018 MEETING

**** MS. BRESCIA MOVED TO TABLE THE MINUTES.**

**** MR. BLOOM SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH (6) SIX IN FAVOR AND (1) ONE ABSTENTION (MR. CULLEN).**

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

A. Building Management Monthly Report

There was no report.

B. Update on parking plan

Mr. Knopp said that the Parking Authority had begun construction for the parking lot on April 4th and it is scheduled to be completed by April 16th and they are on schedule. He said that the Parking Authority has ordered the monitoring equipment for the gates and that it will be installed in the Summer after the equipment arrives., Once it is installed the parking lot will be free to library patrons and that library staff will have the ability to validate parking and anyone else who uses the lot will be the same rate as the other city lots which is .50/hour. He suggested that a ribbon cutting ceremony be scheduled to draw attention to the availability and the benefits of the parking.

C. Net Neutrality legislation

Mr. Knopp said that he has testified in favor of Net Neutrality and so far it has not progressed.

D. Role of the Library in the Opioid Health Crisis

Mr. Knopp said that he had attended a meeting at the Community Health Center about the opioid crisis. It is a severe public health crisis and that in Connecticut there were 75 deaths last year. He requested that Ms. Bradley look at library staff training in the use of Narcan which is the antidote for overdosing because there have been instances in libraries in Connecticut and around the country of overdosing. Ms. Bradley said that Ferguson Library in Stamford had just found someone in the bathroom last week that had overdosed so she has increased the monitoring. Mr. Knopp suggested partnering with the Norwalk Health Department and or the Norwalk Hospital and have a community health forum on opioid addiction and how to recognize it and how to treat an overdose. Ms. Bradley said she would follow-up with the Health Department.

6. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPOR

A. NPL Capital Budget/Pop-Up library

Ms. Bradley said that the Pop-Up library was not recommended for funding in the capital budget. She said that she spoke with Bob Barron and because there are capital funds within the library account that were not spent he recommends they could be used to fund the Pop-Up library. She said that the cost of the Pop-Up library program is \$75,000 and there is \$53,122 remaining in the project from opening the back door, and there is currently \$64,000 in main library preservation account but out of that account the repair for the leaking windows will need to be funded but that she won't know the cost until the bids are received. She also said that there is currently a grant program for libraries that this project may qualify for and that she is in the process of looking into that.

B. NPL Statistics as of February, 2018

Ms. Bradley discussed the statistics and said that 2700 children per year attend the programs in both libraries, and that the adult programming attendance has been increasing and that will be our strength going forward. She reported on the door count and the attendance is well over 600,000 per year.

C. Plans for Studio One at the main library

Ms. Bradley said that this is a capital project and will be moving the maker space into an innovation space.

D. Visit from the US Poet Laureate

Ms. Bradley said that the US Poet Laureate is coming to Norwalk May 3rd and are supporting it with the Education Foundation and Norwalk Community College. She said the event will take place at Norwalk Community College on May 3rd at 6:00PM and Mr. Knopp will speak on behalf of the library. She said that the US Poet Laureate will be going to Norwalk High School and Brien McMahon High School during the day.

Ms. Brescia said that the Arts Council is also doing an Art and Dance program at the mansion on Memorial Day weekend.

E. Traffic Graphic update

Ms. Bradley provided an update and said that there will be a sketch at the May meeting and that the artist and the poet have been meeting.

F. The Impact Vine and Homework HELP support project

Ms. Bradley said that Janine Coss had sent a thank you letter on behalf of the students and families involved in the partnership with the Norwalk Public Schools and Sacred Heart University for the School- to-Library Tier 3 program.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. LitVol Advisory Committee recommendations
No discussion due to Ms. Noir's absence.

Mr. Knopp said that there will be a need to populate several committees.

Mr. Bloom provided an update on the book sale and it will be held at the end of the month and that the ongoing sales are going extremely well. He suggested that in the future that one sale a year be held and do more of the ongoing sales. Mr. Knopp asked if had ever been thought to do an intermediary book sale at another location. Mr. Bloom said "no" and that it would be too labor intensive. Ms. Brescia asked if any books are given to the Senior Center. Mr. Bloom said "yes" as well as DVD's and audio.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There was no discussion.

9. ADJOURNMENT OF DIRECTORS MEETING

- ** MS. BRESCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**
- ** MS. MANN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services

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