

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MARCH 14, 2019**

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

LIBRARY STAFF: Christine Bradley, Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Knopp called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 JANUARY 10, 2019

**** MS. MANN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.
** MR. CULLEN SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

A. Update on strategic plan and space allocation

Mr. Knopp said that the summary of the survey has been completed and the recommendation needs to be completed for space needs matching up with program needs going forward. He said they will be receiving a draft report prior to April 9th for the board to review.

B. Update on discussions with CPTV

Mr. Knopp provided an update and said the discussions with CTTV are in progress.

C. Update on discussions with Discovery Museum

Mr. Knopp said the Library is trying to establish a partnership with the Discovery Museum to bring interactive science exhibits to the Norwalk Library, and will be used as a model for other libraries and discovery museums throughout the state. He said there was a meeting held last week to begin talking about program ideas and said it is very exciting and the next meeting is scheduled for April and the kickoff for the program is tentatively scheduled for June 15th. He said if anyone of the board would like to see the Discovery Museums program guide to contact Ms. Bradley. Ms. Brescia said that Norwalk High School was just awarded for their new science program and that may be a good tie in to the program.

D. Update on Capital Budget process

Mr. Knopp said that the capital budget is going through the city's approval process and will inform the board when it will be on the Common Council agenda for approval and requested the board members to attend.

B. Building Management Monthly Report

There was no report given.

Mr. Knopp said that there was a successful event held this morning with the Chamber of Commerce with the Connecticut Economic Resource Center regarding pre-tax investments of capital gains in development projects.

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Ms. Bradley said that Norwalk Community College is partnering with the South Norwalk Library branch for retail training. Mr. Knopp said he thinks the Mall owners should be paying a fee for the rental of the space.

Ms. Bradley read an email that she received from a library patron into the record as follows:

Feels like a form of nutrition and pleasing to the eye artistic like a metropolitan gathering place. My twin boys are four year old boys are reading and use books as a form of their entertainment that a huge thing. They check out children's and adult books and I purchase some too. Along with the context of the NPL my kids and I are reading and assisted by the staff in remarkable ways. As life may seem overwhelming at times we can seek sanctuary in this library for a great escape to see more clearly and possibly get a direction clue from the staff and there may be an awesome kids program going on in the auditorium. We had a totally blast learning how to dance hip hop and Evelyn in the Children's library is calming and welcoming and she can find a needle in a haystack and intuitively matches books to descriptions and thinks she remembers every

patron that comes in and helped them figure out parking during the reconstruction. Colin knows everything and everyone and is always so pleasant to bump into and puts kids at ease. Encouraging. Ralph Bloom carved time to speak to us regarding preserving family memorabilia. The person at the reference desk by the entrance helped her to find hassle free apartments and the reference desk helped me to meet a pro about my resume. There is a library rep that travels to schools to read to kids with my kids at Room To Grow. It's a big effort and it resonates with the kids. Thanks for your efforts. Not sure if you know how nice the chemistry flows at the NPL.

Ms. Brescia suggested that the e-mail be sent to the editor.

A. Statistics July 1, 2018-January, 2019

There was no discussion of the monthly document report.

7. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed this evening.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed this evening.

9. ADJOURNMENT OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**** MS. BRESCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.
** MR. CULLEN SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services