

**CITY OF NORWALK
LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
BY VIDEO CONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE
June 11, 2020**

Members of the public can call in and listen to a meeting. They will not be able to speak or see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide “live comments” will need to register in advance and use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the “raise your hand indicator” and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to view the meeting, but are not participating, can view a live stream on the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. This stream is delayed by approximately 20 seconds. Please find the information using the link above. The meeting recording and minutes will be posted on the City of Norwalk website within seven (7) days after the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via e-mail in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Christine Bradley at cbradley@norwalkct.org to provide written comment prior to the meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Alex Knopp, Chairman; Ralph Bloom; Mary Mann; Moina Noor; Sharon Baanante; Jannie Williams

ABSENT: Thomas Cullen; Taber Hamilton; Patsy Brescia

STAFF: Christine Bradley, Director; Sherelle Harris

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Knopp called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Knopp asked for a moment of silence for Ms. Mann’s father who has passed away.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment this evening.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2020

**MS. NOOR MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.
MR. BLOOM SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Discussion of NPL Re-opening plan

The board expressed their appreciation for the excellent efforts of library staff to promote and provide access to our materials for residents during the closure due to the Covid- 19 emergency. Mr. Knopp said he has received numerous comments from people who appreciated that they had the ability to download books and access database etc.

Ms. Bradley thanked the board and said that she will share the statement with her staff. Mr. Knopp said that he will send an email to Ms. Bradley to share with her staff. She said that she and Ms. Harris had met with the supervisors today to go through the reopening plan and really appreciated the board's help with the plan.

Ms. Bradley said the increase in materials has been great and they have found that the supplier of e-books and audio books has gone to cost per use so we would only pay for the people who use it. Ms. Harris said they will also be trying to schedule a community read event. Ms. Bradley said that Ms. Harris will also be checking into getting hard and soft cover books to give out for the community read event. Mr. Knopp suggested linking the timing of the community read event to part of the reopening.

Ms. Bradley presented the reopening plan and said the library will begin at 50% capacity. Mr. Knopp said the plan will be publicized so people will know about the capacity limit prior to coming to the library. There was a discussion regarding the reopening plan and staff fielded questions from the board.

Mr. Knopp said in addition to the State's document there is a one page document that Ms. Bradley and Ms. Harris had created that have some inconsistencies with the State's plan and asked if that will be revised before it is adopted. Ms. Bradley said "yes" and that city staff also would like to know what revisions are going to be made. She said she will send it to Mr. Knopp to distribute to the board for comment.

- B. Discussion of status of NPL construction/expansion project

Mr. Knopp said he has no additional updates to report.

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- A. Library Statistics

There was no report given this evening.

- B. NPL Programming and Econtent committees

There was no discussion.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Update on location of Belden Avenue Book Drop

Ms. Bradley said today they had agreed as supervisors to start the book returns on June 17, 2020, into the book drops which will go out in the newsletter. She said they would also like to start curbside pickup on July 8, 2020 and be available Tuesday through Saturday.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Knopp said we have come across two statements on the crisis of racial oppression in America issued by the Urban Libraries Council and by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. He said both of the statements have been sent out and he hopes the board will endorse both of them as an expression of solidarity with protests and the families that have been affected so severely.

MS. MANN MOVED TO APPROVE TO ENDORSE BOTH STATEMENTS.

MS. BAANANTE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Bloom suggested the next board meeting be held in person in the auditorium of the library which will allow for social distancing. Ms. Bradley said she will check with city staff.

9. ADJOURNMENT OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

**** MR. BLOOM MOVED TO ADJOURN
**MS. MANN SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services

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