

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for **January 13, 2021**

Members present: Joan Greco-Cohen, Dorothy Davis, Aren Ginsberg, Jerrold Lander, Edmund Acosta, Michael Hart, LaTrice Johnson, Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes

Members absent:

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay

Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, Kathleen Gallagher, Cindy Deichmann

The meeting was held online due the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) pandemic. Board members and staff participated via Zoom, and the meeting was livestreamed for the public via the Library's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm by Joan Greco-Cohen, President, following roll call. Jerrold Lander joined the meeting at 5:26 pm.

Minutes – The minutes from the December 9, 2020 meeting were approved at 5:19 pm--motion to accept made by Edmund Acosta, seconded by Aren Ginsberg, approved by voice vote.

Correspondence – Reference librarian Lindsay Beckman received an email from a patron grateful for the Library's services.

Friends' Report – The Friends of the Library have received \$12,150 in donations through the end of 2020. They are paying for more hotspots for the Library's collection.

Council Liaison Report – City Council had a study session on the fiscal impact of Washington University on the City of University City. A public hearing was held on rezoning for the Costco development on Olive—the project is moving forward. Citizens willing to serve on a board or commission should contact LaRette Reese, the City Clerk. The TruHotel project is moving forward even though the for-sale sign is still posted on the property; currently they are working on the necessary parking agreement. The police department is expected to begin deploying body cameras in March 2021.

Librarian's Report – The consent agenda was approved at 5:31 pm; motion made by Aren Ginsberg, seconded by Cindy Zirwes.

Discussion Items – Building issues: The compact shelving in the basement has been installed. Two new self-check machines have been received but will not be installed until the Library reopens, and probably not until 80% of the Library's collection has been tagged. The tax revenue collected by the end of 2020 looks good, so the Library will be working with Bond Architects to get the building renovations process restarted.

Grants: The Library received a \$16,000 Tech Mini-Grant to add tablets to the children's collection and replace laptops. The Science Fiction Writers of America gave twice as much money as requested to support the Library's science fiction and fantasy book club.

Action Items – Helen Nelling moved that the Library extend the benefits of the Family First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) to Library employees until February 28, 2021, seconded by Jerrold Lander. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Dorothy Davis, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Mike Hart, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: None. Motion passed by roll call vote at 5:48 pm.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – Mr. Wall will send a Doodle poll to pick the next meeting date.

Building & Grounds – Mr. Wall will send a Doodle poll to pick the next meeting date.

Long-Range Planning – Mr. Wall will send a Doodle poll to pick the next meeting date, which will hopefully be within the next 10 days.

Personnel & Policy – No meeting scheduled.

President's Report – It's time to begin the process for the Library Director's annual review. Anyone with suggestions should contact Helen Nelling. Joan Greco-Cohen and Helen Nelling will meet to begin reviewing the form to be used.

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.