

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for
March 8, 2023

Members present: Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes, Aren Ginsberg, Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Kathleen Simpson.

Members absent: Jerrold Lander

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay

Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, Kerry Bruce, Cindy Deichmann

The meeting was held in hybrid format. Some board members and staff participated via Zoom, and the meeting was recorded; it is available for viewing on the Library's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 pm by Helen Nelling, President, following roll call.

Minutes – Aren Ginsberg made a motion that the minutes from the meeting on February 8, 2023 be approved, seconded by Cindy Zirwes. Motion passed at 5:17 pm. Kim Deitzler made a motion that the minutes from the special meeting on February 20, 2023 be approved, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. Motion passed at 5:19 pm.

Correspondence – A community member emailed Patrick Wall a newspaper column by Bret Stephens alleging that masks did not work during the COVID pandemic.

Council Liaison Report – City Council approved the ordinance amendment and two conditional use permits for sale of recreational marijuana; a 3% tax will be on the April ballot. Movement appears to be afoot on the hotel at the old Delmar Harvard site. Another “sub-anchor” has been approved for the east side of the Costco development. The City hopes to be able to open the public pool this summer. Many of the city's flood-damaged vehicles cannot be replaced until FEMA finishes approval. The QuikTrip at North & South and Olive should open in a few months. Crime from St. Louis City does not seem to be spilling over into University City; U. City's crime rate is up mostly due to shoplifting at Costco.

President's Report – Board meetings will no longer be livestreamed because the public can now attend them in person; they will continue to be recorded. At this time, the library hopes to be back in the 6701 building in June, with the elevator repaired in August. Election of officers for the Board happens at the May meeting, so Board members should consider running for office.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – Committee recommends approval of options 3 and 4 for the water main break/drain, based on engineer's report. The committee also recommends approving the changes in revenue/expenses and the payment of debt service on the loan from BOKF.

Building & Grounds – Committee recommends approval of options 3 and 4 for the water main break/drain, based on engineer's report.

Long-Range Planning – Meeting postponed, will be rescheduled in April.

Personnel & Policy – Will meet on March 22 at 2:30 pm; forms for Patrick Wall's evaluation will be emailed soon.

Librarian's Report – Mark Barnes made a motion to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. The motion was approved by roll call vote at 6:00 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Discussion Items – Patrick Wall gave updates on the building renovation and the flood damage mitigation. Chubb, the insurance company, are still reviewing the work proposals from Raineri for the building flood repairs and Bradford Systems for the compact shelving replacement. Once Chubb responds, a special Board meeting will need to be called.

Action Items

Change order CF 63: Basement flooding. Tabled until response is received from Chubb.

Change order CF 63.1: Water main option 3. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve change order CF 63.1 option 3, in the amount of \$53,519.90, and option 4, in the amount of \$5472.08, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. The motion was approved by roll call vote at 6:04 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Change order CF 63.1: Water main option 4. See previous action item.

Payment request from Raineri. Tabled until paperwork is received from Raineri.

Budget amendments. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. The motion was approved by roll call vote at 6:07 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Spacesaver compact shelving system proposal. Tabled until response is received from Chubb.

Payment of debt service, principal and interest. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve payment of the Library's debt service, principal of \$185,000.00 and interest of \$97,425.00 for a total of \$282,214.78, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. The motion was approved by roll call vote at 6:09 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Public comment – None.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, Kim Deitzler moved for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 pm.