

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for
April 19, 2023

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

Members absent: none

City Council Liaison: absent

Guest: Edmund Acosta

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 5:15 pm by Helen Nelling, President, following roll call. Jerrold Lander joined the meeting via Zoom at 5:19 pm.

Minutes – Aren Ginsberg made a motion that the minutes from the meeting on March 8, 2023 be approved, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 5:17 pm.

Motion passed at 5:17 pm. Aren Ginsberg made a motion that the minutes from the meeting on March 20, 2023 be approved, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 5:18 pm.

Correspondence – The Friends of the Library reported that longtime volunteer Mr. Gleiber has died. David Harris gave the Library a further donation from the estate of Rochelle Harris.

President's Report – Board members should let Patrick Wall know if they want to run for office.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – The committee met before the full Board meeting on April 19, and recommended approving all action items.

Building & Grounds – The committee met before the full Board meeting on April 19, and recommended approving all action items. Library staff should develop signs to be posted at 6701 Delmar to explain why some items are not yet completely restored, e.g. the bathtubs in the Youth Services department will not be moved in until the elevator is repaired.

Long-Range Planning – The committee has postponed meeting until the Library is back at 6701 Delmar.

Personnel & Policy – The committee will meet on April 26 at 2:30 via Zoom.

Librarian's Report – Joan Greco-Cohen made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 5:27 pm.

Discussion Items – *Missouri issues*. The Secretary of State's rule is having its wording finalized. The House removed State Aid to Libraries from the budget, but the Senate says they will restore it. The Library will develop a pamphlet to explain how state funding works.

Building project. Most window leaks have been fixed, but the doors still leak; payment to Ross is still on hold until fixed, and Library will insist that 1-year guarantee on windows begins after all leaks repaired. Insurance has paid out to repair the elevator; bids will be presented for approval later in the meeting. It is still unclear whether insurance will pay out for the high-density shelving. Replacement firewall has been ordered. Work on the water main and drain has been halted until the insurance company can inspect the pipes, which will probably happen the week of May 8. On May 2 movers will begin moving books to 6701, hopefully finishing on May 23. Revised bids are being sought for the Youth Services bathroom doors. Bids for alarm system monitoring are in progress.

Action Items

Payment request from Raineri. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve payment to Raineri of \$371,497.97 for work performed in March 2023, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 6:00 pm.

Elevator repair proposal. The lowest of the four bids received to repair the elevator is from Century Elevator for \$174,753.00, with a timeline of 19 weeks, to be paid with funds from insurance recovery. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to accept the proposal from Century Elevator, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 6:02 pm.

Compact shelving repair and replacement proposal. Bradford System submitted a proposal to replace the damaged compact shelving, including removal and disposal of the parts being replaced. The total cost is \$69,105.57, to be paid with funds from insurance recovery. Jerrold Lander made a motion to approve the proposal, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 6:03 pm.

Woodard invoice. Although the estimate was \$140,000, the final invoice from Woodard for flood mitigation, cleaning, and drying was \$255,455.62; with initial payment deducted, the total due is \$155,455.62, to be paid with funds from insurance recovery. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve paying Woodard \$155,455.62, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 6:06 pm.

Replacement endcaps proposal. Jerrold Lander made a motion to accept the endcaps proposal for \$50,573.00, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 6:09 pm.

Old Business – None.

New Business – None.

Public comment – Former board member Edmund Acosta will assist the Board in planning the Library's grand reopening event, which will happen after the elevator at 6701 Delmar has been repaired.

Closed session for personnel discussion. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to enter closed session, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 6:14 pm.

The meeting re-opened from closed session at 6:57 pm and was adjourned.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 5:15 pm.