

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees of the University City Public Library for
November 13, 2024

Members present: Cindy Zirwes, Aren Ginsberg, Jerrold Lander, Kim Deitzler, Mark Barnes, Joan Greco-Cohen, Dennis Hoppe, Helen Nelling.

Members absent: none

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay (absent)

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 Cindy Zirwes, President, followed by roll call.

Minutes – Aren Ginsberg made a motion that the minutes from the meeting on October 9, 2024 be approved, seconded by Helen Nelling. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote at 5:16 pm.

Correspondence – None.

President's Report – Cindy Zirwes thanked the Friends for their Trivia Night. She noted that if the Department of Education is eliminated, more pressure will be placed on libraries.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – Library bills paid look fine. Audit information will be received in January 2025. Tax rates were successfully certified. Library was awarded a Tech Mini Grant of \$19,984. Committee recommends that the Board approve investment of \$1 million of the Library's reserve funds in T-bills via an institutional broker at Commerce Bank.

Building & Grounds – Building issues include leaks when raining, construction workers parking in the Library's lot, bathtub refurbishment not yet completed. Elevator will be shut down in January to complete repairs.

Long-Range Planning – Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 10, at 4 pm.

Personnel & Policy – Helen Nelling is working on employee survey, which will be administered soon.

Librarian's Report – Evergreen circulation numbers are not very accurate on this month's report, but are becoming more so. The Library's book bike will be stored at Big Shark over the winter. Having the Library be a polling place for the presidential election worked out okay, not disrupting regular services much.

Aren Ginsberg made a motion to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Helen Nelling. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote at 5:32 pm.

Discussion Items – *Building issues*. TVs have been installed in the downstairs study rooms. Midwest Pano's virtual video tour of the Library will soon be up on the Library's website. Maplewood Plumbing recommended that the Library hire American Leak Detection to determine the cause of the water leak in the basement. Shelving is complete except for 10 shelves on the second floor in the Biography section.

Action Items. *Investment instrument*. The Library will purchase three 3-month treasury bills managed by an institutional broker at Commerce Bank for rolling repurchase: two will be for \$333,333 each and one will be for \$333,334. Commerce Bank will provide a monthly reminder to repurchase. Interest will go into the Library's general fund.

Helen Nelling made a motion to approve the investment as described, seconded by Jerrold Lander. Motion passed by roll call vote at 5:43 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Kim Deitzler, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Dennis Hoppe, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none.

Old Business – Staff holiday party will be on December 7; Board members will set up & clean up afterwards. Dennis Hoppe will donate a knee scooter to the mobility collection that the Library is starting.

New Business – Patrick Wall discussed recent patron bannings.

Public comment – None received.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 pm.