

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for
November 10, 2021

Members present: Helen Nelling, Jerrold Lander, Cindy Zirwes, Aren Ginsberg, Edmund Acosta, Mark Barnes, Joan Greco-Cohen.

Members absent: LaTrice Johnson, Kathleen Simpson

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay

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

The meeting was held online due to 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 5:17 by Helen Nelling, President, following roll call; Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, and Cindy Zirwes were present. Edmund Acosta joined the meeting at 5:27 pm.

Minutes – Aren Ginsberg moved that the minutes from the October 13, 2021 meeting be approved, seconded by Cindy Zirwes. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote at 5:18 pm.

Correspondence – The Library received several donations from patrons, including the annual donation given by Warren & Sharon Danziger.

Council Liaison Report – The project at Olive & 170 is moving forward; working with construction crews on schedule to minimize disturbances to neighbors and to traffic during rush hour before winter weather arrives. At the City Council meeting on November 8, 2021, Council discussed refinancing the TIF to cap the interest rate. No update on the hotel project at the Delmar-Harvard school site. Helen Nelling asked for Council Member Clay's assistance with permitting for Phase IIa of the Library's construction.

Librarian's Report – Jerrold Lander moved that the consent agenda be approved, seconded by Cindy Zirwes. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed by roll call vote at 5:43 pm.

Discussion Items

Reciprocal agreements. The Municipal Library Consortium will enter into a reciprocal agreement with Jefferson County Library and Scenic Regional Library systems if the board of trustees of all MLC members approve the agreement; language of the agreement used for Saint Louis County Library was provided in the packet. This topic will be an action item at the December 8, 2021 meeting.

Building renovation. Phase I is expected to be completed by December 19, 2021, assuming good weather; windows and doors are here and are being assembled. Phase IIa will then begin with 2 weeks of asbestos abatement after getting permission from the EPA.

Action Items

Payment request from RG Ross. Joan Greco-Cohen made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$19,264.41 to RG Ross, seconded by Edmund Acosta. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed by roll call vote at 5:54 pm.

Invoices from Bond Architects. Waiting to receive itemization from Bond Architects for two invoices totaling \$724.75 (Phase I) and \$100,282.59 (Phase II). Vote delayed until after itemization information is received.

Award contract for Phase IIa. Raineri Construction's bid was lowest because they use a "keepsafe" methodology. Joan Greco-Cohen made a motion to award the contract for Phase IIa of construction to Raineri Construction, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed by roll call vote at 6:00 pm.

President's Report – Helen Nelling said she was impressed by the library staff's hard work with the move and encouraged other board members to thank the staff directly. She also encouraged board members to donate to the Friends of the Library.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – Met before the Board meeting, at 4 p.m.

Building & Grounds – Will meet soon.

Long-Range Planning – Will schedule meeting before year's end. Chair Edmund Acosta asked for feedback to take to the City's Vision 2040 committee. He also will share information about Washington University's strategic plan. Cindy Zirwes suggested looking into roofing materials, such as a white roof to reflect heat.

Personnel & Policy – Will meet in December.

Old Business – Joan Greco-Cohen asked Board members donating to the Friends of the Library do so in Dorothy Davis' name, to honor her years of service on the Library Board.

New Business – The Library will not have a holiday party this year due to COVID concerns.

The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm.