Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for
February 9, 2022

Members present: Helen Nelling, Jerrold Lander, Cindy Zirwes, Aren Ginsberg, Edmund Acosta, Joan Greco-Cohen, Kathleen Simpson
Members absent: Mark Barnes, LaTrice Johnson
City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay
Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, Kathleen Gallagher, Cindy Deichmann
Guests: Becky Esrock and Martin Ghafoori from Stifel

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 5:16 pm by Helen Nelling, President, following roll call.

Minutes – Aren Ginsberg made a motion that the minutes from the January 12, 2022 regular meeting and the January 25, 2022 special meeting be approved, seconded by Edmund Acosta. Motion passed by voice vote at 5:18 pm.

Council Liaison Report – Stacy Clay answered questions about Prop F and about the Loop Trolley potentially restarting.

Librarian’s Report – Joan Greco-Cohen made a motion to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Edmund Acosta. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote at 5:49 pm.

Discussion Items – Martin Ghafoori and Becky Esrock answered questions about the bonds being sold on February 10, 2022, including choosing a 20-year vs 17-year period, defeasance and call date. The Board will vote on approval of the bond sales at the February 10, 2022 special meeting at 5:15 pm.

Action Items


Bond Architects invoice. The invoice was not received in time for action at this meeting.

RG Ross payment. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve payment to RG Ross in the amount of $107,808.29, seconded by Joan Greco-Cohen. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed by roll call vote at 5:54 pm.

Policy changes. Due to time constraints, policy changes were put off until the March 9, 2022 meeting.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – Met before the full board meeting. The committee recommended choosing the 20-year period for the Library’s bonds rather than the 17-year period. Next meeting will be before the March 9, 2022 regular board meeting.

Building & Grounds – Met before the full board meeting. Next meeting will be before the March 9, 2022 regular board meeting.

Long-Range Planning – Will meet on February 16, 2022, time to be determined.

Personnel & Policy – Will meet on February 24, 2022 at 4:30 pm.

New Business – Edmund Acosta congratulated the Board for successfully bringing the renovation and bond sale processes to this point.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 pm.