

Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for
April 13, 2022

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

Members absent:

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay

Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, Kathleen Gallagher, Kerry Bruce, 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 5:15 pm by Helen Nelling, President, following roll call.

Minutes – Edmund Acosta made a motion that the minutes from the March 9, 2022 meeting be approved, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. The minutes were approved at 5:16 pm by voice vote.

Correspondence – The Friends of the Library donated \$1,000 to cover costs of U City in Bloom, \$2,000 for Youth Services, and \$14,000 that will be used for the summer reading program and new furniture.

Council Liaison Report – Alternatives for funding pensions are being considered since Prop F failed. The Costco project is moving forward; some anchors for the south side will be announced soon. Mr. Clay will ask the City manager about displaced businesses staying in U. City. The April 11 study session was about redrawing ward boundaries based on information from the most recent census. The Avis project at Old Bonhomme & Delmar is not moving forward; the Avenir project at Delmar & 1-170 is. Work should begin on the Harvard building soon. The land sale for the QuikTrip at Olive & Midland went through.

Librarian's Report – The Board congratulated Kathleen Gallagher on her new job as Director of the Richmond Heights Memorial Library and wished her well. Kerry Bruce is Acting Assistant Director. Kara Krekeler has been promoted to Head of Adult Services. Issues that the St. Louis County Library system is having with their switch to the Polaris library management system are not affecting UCPL's use of Polaris.

Discussion Items – Abatement on the 6701 Delmar building is complete, and demolition will be substantially complete by April 15. The window parts that were backordered have arrived and should be installed by next week; possible leakage of the new windows is still being checked. Board members expressed some concerns about possible new furniture. Whether old furniture will be sold or donated is still to be decided.

Action Items

Payment request from RG Ross. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to have BOKF pay RG Ross \$15,163.92, seconded by Jerrold Lander. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 5:47 pm.

Invoices from Bond Architects. The invoices for Bond totaled \$10,104.60, less than the \$20,000.00 threshold requiring Board approval, so no vote was necessary.

Payment requests from Raineri. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to have BOKF pay Raineri's requests of \$39,055.74 and \$80,110.71 for a total of \$119,166.45, seconded by Edmund Acosta. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 5:51 pm.

President's Report – Election of officers will be held at the May board meeting; anyone interested in running for office should let Helen Nelling know before the next meeting. June will be the last meeting for outgoing board members. Edmund Acosta has served the maximum number of terms. Joan Greco-Cohen is eligible for another term; Helen Nelling is eligible for two more terms.

Committee Reports

Budget & Finance – Aren Ginsberg thanked the Friends of the Library for their financial support. All members should review the new budget numbers, which includes a 6% raise for all staff; the budget will be voted on at the May 11, 2022 meeting. Next meeting will be May 11 at 4:00 pm.

Building & Grounds – Next meeting will be May 11 at 4:30 pm.

Long-Range Planning – Edmund Acosta reported on design of plan and how to get more input from community. Next meeting will be April 27 at 3:30 pm.

Personnel & Policy – Reminded Board members to turn in evaluations of Patrick Wall. Next meeting will be April 27 at 2:30 pm.

New Business – Edmund Acosta suggested that everyone back up the data on their phones.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, Edmund Acosta moved for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.