Meeting minutes of the Board of Trustees for the University City Public Library for
June 8, 2022

Members present: Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes, Aren Ginsberg, Edmund Acosta, Joan Greco-Cohen, Kathleen Simpson.
Members absent: Mark Barnes, Jerrold Lander, LaTrice Johnson.
City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay
Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, 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 – Joan Greco-Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2022 meeting, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. The minutes were unanimously approved at 5:19 pm.

Correspondence – The Library received a generous donation of $3000 from Warren and Sharon Danziger.

Council Liaison Report – The Third Ward revitalization task force met on June 6 to decide how to spend money from the Costco project, including housing support. The Costco project is moving along.

Librarian’s Report – The consent agenda was unanimously accepted by show of hands at 5:37. Patrick Wall reported on topics from the Missouri Public Library Directors conference, including a Dolly Parton book project, state aid to libraries, and unionization of library staff in Boone County.

Discussion Items – A punchlist for Phase IIa will be made after a walkthrough of the building on June 9. Windows are still leaking; staff are trying to reach RG Ross to discuss the problem.

Action Items

Approval of 2022-2023 pay rate / pay scale changes. The rates show the 6% pay increase suggested by the Budget & Finance committee and reviewed by the Personnel & Policy committee. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve the pay rate/pay scale changes, seconded by Joan Greco Cohen. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 5:38 pm.

Approval of 2022-2023 budget. The Budge & Finance and Personnel & Policy committees have reviewed these proposed changes. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to approve the budget, seconded by Cindy Zirwes. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 5:40 pm.

Approval of payment of invoice from Bond Architects. Invoice was less than the amount requiring Board approval, so it has been paid already.


Closed session for personnel discussion. Edmund Acosta made a motion to enter closed session, seconded by Cindy Zirwes. Aye votes: Edmund Acosta, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: none. Motion passed at 6:00 pm.

President’s Report – Helen Nelling thanked the board members for the past year of service, and agreed to quick meetings in the summer if necessary to approve payment of large bills. The Board will miss Edmund Acosta.

Committee Reports: Patrick Wall will send out new committee assignments.

   Budget & Finance – Last met on June 6 before the regular board meeting.
   Building & Grounds – Last met on June 6 before the regular board meeting.
   Long-Range Planning – Mark Barnes will be the new committee chair. Edmund Acosta emailed documents to help members work with the process.
   Personnel & Policy – Next meeting will be at 2:30 on June 22. In the May 25 meeting, the committee approved changes to credit card usage. Currently looking at meeting room policy.
Old Business – Edmund Acosta spoke about the quality of his fellow board members, how he learned the library is more than books, and talked up participation in the City’s Vision 2040 project.

New Business – The tricycle bookmobile has finally been received and will be assembled soon.
The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 5:15 pm.

The meeting re-opened from closed session at 6:10 pm and was adjourned.