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

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

Members absent: Kim Deitzler

City Council Liaison: Stacy Clay (zoom)

Library staff: Patrick Wall—Director, Kerry Bruce (zoom), Cindy Deichmann (zoom)

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

Public comment – No public comment was received.

Minutes – Jerrold Lander made a motion that the minutes from the meeting on October 12, 2022 be approved, seconded by Aren Ginsberg. Motion passed at 5:18 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: None.

Correspondence – The Library received a donation from the estate of Rochelle Harris; payment from two grants; $12,393.41 from Missouri State Aid to Libraries; and an $8000 payment from the Memorial Day Run.

Council Liaison Report – Costco has opened, Dierbergs and possible restaurants are being evaluated for Markets at Olive project. The Third Ward Revitalization task force is meeting to determine best residential use of the $10 million received from the Costco project. Chik-Fil-A is still possible at the project; if so, public comment will be solicited. City Council is discussing vacancies in the Loop with the Loop Special Business District; high rents are an issue.

Librarian’s Report – The consent agenda was approved by unanimous roll call vote at 5:31 pm.

Discussion Items – Audit. Sikich proposed conducting the audit for a fee of $10,000-$15,000 depending on the time involved. Showalter and Jabouri will not be able to perform the audit this year. Fick, Eggenmeyer, and Williamson will be able to perform the audit on a modified cash basis instead of full accrual for around $7000, which Gilmore & Bell indicates will satisfy our COP contract requirement. The Budget & Finance Committee recommends selecting Fick, Eggenmeyer, and Williamson.

Building project. Rooftop HVAC units are installed; curb for transformer is done, will be installed in December. Parking lot grading happening this week, asphalt before December (as weather permits). Gallery walls will need plywood & new fabric. Still waiting for main breaker panels.

Action Items

Auditor assignment. Aren Ginsberg made a motion to choose Fick, Eggenmeyer, and Williamson as auditors on a modified cash basis for this fiscal year, seconded by Cindy Zirwes. Motion passed at 5:36 pm. Aye votes: Mark Barnes, Aren Ginsberg, Joan Greco-Cohen, LaTrice Johnson, Jerrold Lander, Helen Nelling, Kathleen Simpson, Cindy Zirwes. Nay votes: None.


President’s Report – Proposed administrative rule by Secretary of State, 15 CSR 30-200.015 Library Certification Requirement for the Protection of Minors. An ad-hoc committee—Patrick Wall, Helen Nelling, Cindy Zirwes, Jerrold Lander—will meet next week to generate a resolution to be emailed to the full Board for approval, since public comment must be received between November 15 and December 15. The committee will also talk to City Council—councilmembers Clay and Klein—about a resolution by the council.

Committee Reports
Budget & Finance – The committee recommended selecting Fick, Eggenmeyer, and Williamson as auditors, and approving the Raineri invoice and change order PFCO 20 CF23.

Building & Grounds – The committee recommended approving the Raineri invoice and change order PFCO 20 CF23.

Long-Range Planning – No report.

Personnel & Policy – Met November 2, discussed proposed administrative rule 15 CSR 30-200.015 but decided to pause for Patrick Wall to meet with others; encouraged individual Board members to write letters in support after ad hoc committee generates a resolution.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 5:15 pm.

There being no further business, Aren Ginsberg moved for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.