

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

MINUTES

September 17, 2020

A regular meeting of the Racine Public Library Board of Trustees was held September 17, 2020 at 4:30 PM via video conference due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Board members Tracy Austin, Angelina Cruz, Maurice Horton, Melissa Kaprelian, Brian O'Connor, Chris Terry, Sue Trottier, and Ahmad Qawi were Present. James O'Hagan was an excused absence. Interim Executive Directors Robert Margis and Darcy Mohr along with staff member Nick Demski attended. Tom Eeg from City of Racine Public Works was in attendance.

President Austin called the meeting to order at 4:43.

No members of the general public were present nor had asked to speak.

Tom Eeg reported on flooding damage that had occurred in the library caused by a storm on August 11, 2020. The sewers couldn't accommodate the rain water runoff. Memorial Hall, City Hall, Fire Station 5, and the Cesar Chavez Community Center all had damage. The majority of the damage in the Library came in thru a pipe that brings fiber into the building in the storage room of the business office. Sewer water also bubbled up thru a capped pipe in the floor of the lobby. Carpet in the Business office, Pomeroy room, and lobby are being replaced. Tile in the storage closet and staff room are being replaced. Carpet is ordered and will take 4 to 6 weeks. Carpeting in the area of the lobby leak will be removed down to the floor until carpeting is replaced. The \$33,000 to \$34,000 cost is covered by the city insurance. Chris Terry reported the replacement of the flooring in the closet and break room will start on September 18, 2020. The cost to the library to upgrade to LVP is \$2165.

President's Report – Tracy Austin

No Report.

Committee Reports

Finance & Personnel Committee – No report.

RUSD – No Report.

Racine County – Melissa Kaprelian – No report.

Library Foundation – Sue Trottier – No report.

Executive Search Committee – Tracy Austin

The search is moving forward. Face to face interviews with five candidates are being held next week and the following week by the search committee. After this round the plan is to bring back two or three candidates for the final interview process. The Search Committee is working hand in hand with John Keister and Associates LLC, Executive Search for Libraries and Non-Profits during this process. This round of interviews will be set up in the South West corner of the Adult department and will be socially distanced.

Old Business

Parking meter update – Ald. Maurice Horton

Ald. Horton is sitting on the Transit Committee.

Items for Board Action.

There is a need to recruit Library Board Members. Of our twelve board members there are three vacant seats. There are one county and two vacant city seats. No actions taken

There was discussion in implementing the Jessica MacPhail Music Studio and if we needed to go to RFP to hire an architect to give us an estimate for the build. As a capital project the City has said they will pay for this studio and a \$25,000 amount has been put in the capital budget as a place holder. The City's capital budget has not yet been approved by council and is uncertain. Mohr spoke about recent projects that we used the architects from Product Architecture and Design firm for. It was moved by Ms. Trottier and seconded by Ms. Austin that the Library allocate \$5,000 for the design of the music studio. The Motion failed. The Board would like to know which budget cycle and amounts for the project.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Trottier and seconded by Ms. Kaprealian to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Mohr reported that the Library has a volunteer student intern social worker that started last week. After training and development of responsibilities information for this service will go out to the public.

Items for next Agenda

Next steps for implementing Jessica MacPhail Music Studio

It was moved by Mr. Terry and seconded by Ms. Kaprealian to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Margis, Co-Interim Executive Director