

Providence Community Library
Board of Directors Minutes
February 25, 2013
South Providence Library

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Mark McKenney called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Secretary Joan Dagle took the roll call of the board members, noting that 18 trustees were present making a quorum.

Present: Yamil Baez, David Berman, Kai Cameron, Avital Chatto, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, Dale Gorton, Alan Gunther, Linda Kushner, Matthew Lawrence, Rochelle Lee, Mark McKenney, Marcus Mitchell Patricia Raub, Deborah Schimberg, Ellen Schwartz, Cyndie Wilmot, and Ken Wise.

Absent: Christian Caldarone, Elena Chiaradio, Gonzalo Cuervo, Althea Graves, Almas Kalafian, and Ann Keefe.

2. Minutes: R. Lee moved that the board minutes from January 7, 2013 be accepted as recorded. The motion to approve the minutes was seconded by D. Gorton and passed unanimously.
3. President Mark McKenney addressed the board and the large number of members of the public present with respect to the issues surrounding any employee's departure from PCL. He reviewed the role of the Board and of the Executive Director. He stated that the Board is legally precluded from discussing the particulars of someone who has left PCL. He noted that the Employee Handbook specifies that at-will (non-union) employees may ask for a review of personnel decisions by appeal to the Executive Committee (sitting as the Performance Review Committee). He then stated that the Board was willing to revise the agenda and entertain comments from the public but that the Board would not respond to comments in this instance. He asked for a motion to place Public Comment first on the agenda and to limit each speaker to three minutes. The motion was made by D. Schimberg and seconded by M. Lawrence. It passed unanimously.
4. Public Comment
Eleven members of the public spoke in support of Thomas O'Donnell.
5. Director's Report (Laura Marlane)
-We are one month into our trial with Unique Management Services; the amount recovered is approximately \$3100.
-Training for the Human Library will take place tonight at Rochambeau.
-Level funding projected for 2014 from the state.
-The updated organizational chart was distributed.
-L. Marlane and S. Gibbs have met twice so far with the staff union stewards; meetings will continue monthly.

5. Program Coordinator's Report
-Accepted as submitted.
6. Finance Report (Ellen Schwartz)
-At the seventh month point, the budget is where it should be.
7. Development Report (Steve Kumins)
-The first installment for the Reference Resource Center has come in: \$56,000.
-In partnership with Ready to Learn Providence, we have applied to the Institute for Museum and Library Services for a \$250,000 grant. We also applied for CDBG Program Service funding for \$20,500 to support our Summer Reading Program.
-L. Kushner reminded the board that the Great Checkout is scheduled for 3/22 at Rochambeau and urged Board members to sell tickets.
8. Personnel Report (Ken Wise)
-Stephanie in IT is developing a place on the PCL website where Board members can share documents.
-Changes from the Personnel Committee to the Employee Handbook to align sections with the union contract were accepted as distributed.
9. Governance Report (Patricia Raub)
-Rescheduled.
10. Facilities Report (Mike Nickerson)
-The work on the Knight Memorial roof will start by May.
-We should have bids soon for the Smith Hill plans (Champlin funds).
-L. Marlane thanked Mike and the maintenance staff for their work through the four days of the recent storm.
11. Advocacy Committee Report (Linda Kushner)
-No report.
-L. Kushner asked for support of H5550 that would reallocate the state's \$700,000 match to a percentage of municipal libraries' endowments; instead, the state would match the funds to a percentage of municipal grants. Currently, two libraries receive 85% of the matching funds. There would be no change for fiscal year 2014, but for the next year the match would be 50% for the endowment and 0% for the following year. The effect would be to increase funds for 36 libraries; only 4 would lose funds. C. Wilmot moved that the PCL board support the bill; D. Berman seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
12. New Business
-D. Schimberg raised the issue of PCL's strategic plan and asked if we should have a committee working on it. L. Marlane noted that there is a strategic plan that needs looking at. M. McKenney suggested that anyone interested should let D. Schimberg know and she can report at the next meeting.
13. Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2): staff union negotiations

Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a) (1): annual review of Exec. Director

L. Marlane was notified in writing that the annual review of the Exec. Director would take place and that she had the right to request that the meeting be in open session. She indicated that she preferred the review to take place in Executive Session.

L. Kushner moved that the meeting go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) and RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1). Ellen Schwartz seconded the motion. Prior to the vote, D. Gorton left the meeting. Voting in favor: Y. Baez, D. Berman, K. Cameron, A. Chatto, J. Dagle, D. Del Gais, A. Gunther, L. Kushner, M. Lawrence, R. Lee, M. McKenney, M. Mitchell, P. Raub, D. Schimberg, E. Schwartz, C. Wilmot, K. Wise. Opposed: none. The motion passed unanimously. R. Lee moved, A. Chatto seconded, a motion to seal the minutes. The motion passed unanimously. A. Gunther left the Executive Session upon recommendation of the Board.

14. L. Kushner moved that the meeting return to public session. R. Lee seconded the motion. Prior to the conclusion of the Executive Session, M. Mitchell left the meeting. Voting in favor: Y. Baez, D. Berman, K. Cameron, A. Chatto, J. Dagle, D. Del Gais, L. Kushner, M. Lawrence, R. Lee, M. McKenney, P. Raub, D. Schimberg, E. Schwartz, C. Wilmot, K. Wise. Opposed: none. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Adjournment

P. Raub moved that the meeting adjourn and Y. Baez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle
Secretary