

Providence Community Library  
Board of Directors Minutes  
March 16, 2015  
South Providence Library

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Mark McKenney called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Secretary Joan Dagle took the roll call of the board members, noting that 16 trustees were present making a quorum.

Present: Avital Chatto, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, Grace Diaz, Margaret Gardner, Althea Graves, Matthew Lawrence, Rochelle Lee, Mark McKenney, Silaphone Nhongvongsouthy, Patricia Raub, Bianca Rodriguez, Deborah Schimberg, Ellen Schwartz, Cyndie Wilmot, and Ken Wise.

Absent: Christian Caldarone, Elena Chiaradio, and Alan Gunther.

2. Minutes: M. Gardner moved that the board minutes from February 23 be accepted as recorded. E. Schwartz seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

3. M. McKenney reported on a positive meeting with Mayor Elorza. The history of PCL was reviewed and ways to have a productive relationship with the city were discussed. M. McKenney thanked the Advocacy Committee for their great materials. G. Diaz also was at the meeting. Focus was on what we could do with extra money. The request: \$250,000 each year for the next five years. M. McKenney also noted that March 31 is the date by which PCL and the City need to inform each other about intent to terminate the Agreement. (PCL does not intend to terminate.) PCL would like to have an Agreement that extends beyond one year

4. Report of the Executive Committee

-The Executive Committee did not meet in March.

5. Director's Report: L. Marlane

-As submitted.

6. Program Coordinator's Report: M. Novello

-As submitted.

-D. Schimberg asked again to have all reports submitted earlier.

7. Finance Report (E. Schwartz)

-Income statement ending February 28, 2015 accepted as submitted. E. Schwartz noted that some utility bills and overtime were still to come.

-P. Raub commended the maintenance staff for a great snow clearing job at all of the libraries; the board gave an enthusiastic round of applause to Mike Nickerson..

8. Development Report (S. Kumins/M. Lawrence)

-S. Kumins reported grants, donations, etc. on target for meeting goals. The success of the April 30 fundraiser will depend on sponsorships.

-M. Lawrence corrected his announcement at the last meeting regarding the naming donation at Rochambeau: full board approval is not required (President only).

M. Lawrence reported that the committee recommends naming the community room at SPL in honor of Sister Ann and installing a plaque. The committee will develop a protocol for naming opportunities later in the spring.

-Fundraiser invitations will go out soon; the committee will write notes on those to big donors.

-This Saturday, Cranston Public Library, 9:30-1: OLIS program for library trustees on how to ask for money and develop relationships with donors. See M. Lawrence if interested.

9. Facilities Report (C. Caldarone)

-As submitted..

-A. Graves noted that there were leaks at SHL and complaints about the new door. M. Nickerson explained that the leaks were fixed on Friday and the contractor has taken responsibility; the door is still a work in progress.

D. Del Gais asked about the Olneyville project. S. Kumins explained the time pressure (Olneyville Housing has right of first refusal; with another offer having been made, there's pressure to say yes or no more quickly).

10. Governance Report (P. Raub)

-P. Raub reported that the committee encourages board members to attend events at various libraries; she distributed information on this month's events.

-M. McKenney noted that there are currently only 19 board members; P. Raub responded that the committee is working on identifying new people. Openings include: SPL representative; City Council appointee; at-large members. .presented the proposed revisions to the By-Laws for the final round of comment and consideration.

11. Advocacy Report (K. Wise)

-K. Wise reported that the "Recommendations...FY16 through FY20" document (distributed) was given to the Mayor and will also go to the City Council. In addition, G. Diaz has given the Mayor the information he requested. She noted that her impression is that the new administration and PCL have gotten off to a good start and that PCL's request is reasonable (see above, item 3).

-R. Lee noted that PCL should make sure to talk with members of the City Council's Finance Committee; G. Diaz reinforced the importance of that strategy.

12. Public Comment

-A. Graves: SHL, April 17, Earth Day: community clean-up, library beautification day. Also in April: celebration of Armenian culture (dates TBA). And: SHL and RIC will offer high school students an African-American program for credit.

-D. Del Gais: MPL, April 11, Children's Day; April 28, Jazz Night.

-M. Gardner: RL, April 13-18, Rochambeau book sale.

-G. Diaz: GED update. There will be a public hearing April 14 at 255 Westminster.

-M. McKenney: Next meeting, April 20. Tomorrow, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will honor Sister Ann with their Person of the Year Award. D. Del Gais noted that this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade in Providence is dedicated to Sister Ann.

13. Adjournment

With "beannachtai na Feile Padraig agat!", M. McKenney adjourned the meeting. Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm; Blessing of the feast of Patrick to all.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle  
Secretary