

Providence Community Library
Board of Directors Minutes
March 18, 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 21 trustees were present making a quorum.

Present: Yamil Baez, David Berman, Christian Caldarone, Kai Cameron, Elena Chiaradio, Gonzalo Cuervo, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, Dale Gorton, Althea Graves, Alan Gunther, Almas Kalafian, Ann Keefe, Linda Kushner, Matthew Lawrence, Mark McKenney, Patricia Raub, Deborah Schimberg, Ellen Schwartz, Cyndie Wilmot, and Ken Wise. Rochelle Lee [arrived after the roll].

Absent: Avital Chatto, Marcus Mitchell.

2. Minutes: G. Cuervo moved that the board minutes from February 25, 2013 be accepted as recorded. The motion to approve the minutes was seconded by A. Graves and passed unanimously.

3. President Mark McKenney presented an overview for the board of the recent action taken by the Executive Committee regarding T. O'Donnell's appeal of his termination from PCL. The appeal was presented to the Executive Committee, acting as the Performance Review Committee, at a special meeting on March 11. The Executive Committee, by a vote of 2 to 6, voted not to sustain the appeal. He stated that the board would now look forward and continue our work. M. McKenney announced that he had met with staff and Friends at Smith Hill and would meet in the near future with Mount Pleasant; he welcomes invitations from the other libraries.

4. Director's Report (Laura Marlane)

-We have signed on with Unique Management Services.

-L. Marlane will speak at a URI Graduate School of Library and Information Services conference on career paths and at the annual RI Statewide Preservation Conference.

-S. Gibbs and L. Marlane are working with the union stewards on the agenda for a full staff meeting on Friday.

-This year's Library Card Drive was successful even though attendance was a bit lower; the RI Black Storytellers were again fantastic.

-D. Schimberg asked about the state RRC; L. Marlane will get statistics for the next meeting.

5. Program Coordinator's Report (Michelle Novello)
 - We received a RIDOT grant for Seat Belt Education
 - There are now cyber sites at 6 libraries
 - The Human Library-RI was a success; we will do it again next year.
 - Updates on hugely successful Latino programs are detailed in the PC's report.
6. Finance Report (Ellen Schwartz))
 - The anticipated loss for the year is one-third of what we expected it to be.
7. Development Report (Steve Kumins)
 - Fundraising results will be better than last year.
 - We have received \$14000 from a non-profit agency shutting down; Mayor Tavares recommended the remaining funds be awarded to PCL.
 - Reminder: The annual fundraiser, The Great Checkout, is March 22; Board tickets: \$50.
8. Personnel Report (Ken Wise)
 - Stephanie in IT is completing the board website that will work as a document repository.
 - The committee will have a policy on meeting rooms (based on the Warwick Library model) ready for the next meeting; others are in the works.
9. Facilities Report (Christian Caldarone)
 - Contract and bidding procurement policies will be ready for the next meeting.
 - The work on the Knight Memorial roof will start in April.
 - We're waiting for the City to approve the vendor for the KM stairs.
 - Final plans for the work on SH are close to being done; there will be a public meeting at SH to discuss the plans.
 - The RIPTA bookmobile has volunteers from Amos House for remodeling; we will need funds for maintenance, gas, etc.; and we still need a location to park the van.
10. Governance Report (Patricia Raub)
 - The committee is partnering with the Personnel Committee on the board website.
 - Handbook /orientation materials will be ready for the April meeting.
11. Ad-hoc Advocacy Committee Report (Ann Keefe)
 - A. Keefe invited board members, Friends groups members, and others to contact her if interested in discussing the future of the advocacy committee and its activities; the current group will meet to discuss what it might do going forward and to explore public relations options.
 - L. Kushner announced that due to concern at RILA that the proposed change regarding reallocation of the state match to a percentage of municipal libraries' endowments was too extreme for the libraries that would lose funds, support for H5550 has been withdrawn for now.

12. New Business

-D. Schimberg suggested that the board should take the time to reflect on the events resulting from the Rochambeau personnel decision, perhaps in a retreat format. A. Kalafian distributed a list of questions she thought might help spark such reflection. J. Dagle will check on the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

13. Public Comment

-K. McAninch urged that such a discussion take place.

14. Adjournment

A. Graves moved that the meeting adjourn and R. Lee seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle
Secretary