

Providence Community Library
Board of Directors Minutes
January 25, 2016
South Providence Library

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Cyndie Wilmot called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Secretary Joan Dagle took the roll call of the board members, noting that 20 trustees were present constituting a quorum.

Present: Tony Aguilar, Avital Chatto, Elena Chiaradio, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, Grace Diaz, Margaret Gardner, Althea Graves, Alan Gunther, Christine Kue, Matthew Lawrence, Rochelle Lee, Mark McKenney, Silaphone Nhongvongsouthy, Patricia Raub, Bianca Rodriquez, Deborah Schimberg, Pam Vogel, Cyndie Wilmot, and Ken Wise.

Absent: Christian Caldarone, Ellen Schwartz.

2. Minutes: Correction: A. Chatto did not attend; 15 members were present. A. Gunther moved that the board minutes from December 21 be accepted as corrected. R. Lee seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

3. Executive Committee Report: C. Wilmot

C. Wilmot reported that potential operating costs for the proposed Olneyville Library at St. Teresa's were discussed. There will be a special closed session Exec. C. meeting on 2/2 to address this. Sue Gibbs, Eileen Dyer, and she will be meeting this week with Councilwoman Sabina Matos and One Neighborhood.

4. Leadership Team: Update

S. Gibbs reported that final job descriptions had been completed for every position and that hiring process documents were being prepared. Meetings of the LT and board committees will start next week. C. Wilmot reported that she, J. Dagle, and Rod Burkett attended the ALA job fair in Boston.

5. Library Director's Report: E. Dyer

-E. Dyer reported that, at the request of the Advocacy Committee, she convened a meeting of the Library Directors of Distressed Communities on 1/13. The group decided to lobby for the full 25% funding for the State Grant in Aid to Libraries. House and Senate bills to have OLIS fees paid for distressed communities might be offered.

-G. Diaz emphasized the importance of speaking with members of the House and Senate finance committees.

6. Program Director's Report: Michelle Novello

-M. Novello highlighted the demand for our Spanish classes. She also reported that passing scores for the GED exams have been lowered nationwide from 150 to 145. As a result, most of our students will now pass.

-Regarding the last report item, "a day in the life of PCL": M. Gardner, seconded by M. McKenney, commented that this would make a wonderful Op Ed piece.

7. Finance Report: S. Gibbs

-Income statement, five months ending December 31, 2015 accepted as submitted. S. Gibbs noted that December was a good month and made up some of the previous shortfall.

8. Development Report: S. Kumins

-S. Kumins noted that December to early January is traditionally a good period. He also announced that the fundraiser would be on May 12 and that the event needs to grow in terms of both sponsors and tickets sold. He asked for suggestions for venues for up to 150 people—interesting spaces that are also free or really cheap.

9. Facilities Report: S. Gibbs

-As submitted.

10. Governance Report: P. Raub

-On behalf of the board, P. Raub welcomed Christine Kue, the Friends representative from South Providence, to the board.

-P. Raub and Stephanie Shea gave a presentation on the board section of the PCL website, including a fun hands-on "quiz."

11. Advocacy Report: K. Wise

-K. Wise reviewed the 1/13 meeting with other distressed libraries (see above).

12. Public Comment

-A. Gunther: Smith Hill forum on substance abuse, Wednesday at 6 pm.

13. Adjournment

A. Chatto moved to adjourn the meeting; E. Chiaradio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle
Secretary