

Providence Community Library  
Board of Directors Minutes  
March 21, 2016  
Knight Memorial Library

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Cyndie Wilmot called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm.

Secretary Joan Dagle took the roll call of the board members, noting that 12 trustees were present constituting a quorum.

Present: Tony Aguilar, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, Margaret Gardner, Althea Graves, Mark McKenney, Silaphone Nhongvongsouthy, Patricia Raub, Deborah Schimberg, Ellen Schwartz, Cyndie Wilmot, and Ken Wise. Avital Chatto, Grace Diaz, Matthew Lawrence, Rochelle Lee, Bianca Rodriquez, and Pam Vogel arrived after the roll, making the final count 18 members present.

Absent: Christian Caldarone, Elena Chiaradio, Alan Gunther, Christine Kue, Janet Pichardo.

2. Minutes: M. McKenney moved that the board minutes from February 22 be accepted as corrected to note the location. A. Graves seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

3. Executive Committee Report: No March meeting.

4. Library Director's Report: Eileen Dyer

One addition: Eileen will testify tomorrow at the House Finance Committee regarding full funding of the 25% Grant in Aid.

5. Program Director's Report: Michelle Novello

As submitted.

6. Finance Report: E. Schwartz

-Income statement, ending February 29, 2016 accepted as submitted. (A. Graves moved, P, Raub seconded motion to accept: unanimously approved.

7. Development Report: M. Lawrence

-The paperwork for House grants will be submitted soon.

-Invitations for the May fundraiser have gone to the printer and will include raffle tickets.

8. Facilities Report: Sue Gibbs

-As submitted. G. Diaz noted that a new grant writer, Peter Asan, has been hired by the Mayor to

explore opportunities; she suggested PCL might be able to take advantage of his help. Grace, Sue, and Cheryl Space met with the Mayor today and mentioned the PCL deficit and the challenges connected with the St. Teresa's project.

9. Governance Report: P. Raub

No report this month.

10. Advocacy Report: K. Wise

-K. Wise reported that selected postcards had been given to Toby Simon in the Mayor's office.

-The postcard campaign rally/event will be Thursday, 3:45-4:30 at City Hall.

11. Consultants' Report and Discussion

Sophia Grice outlined the issues involved and steps taken in building the Leadership Team. Mark Motte reviewed the benefits resulting from the Leadership Team work. The board divided into two Groups, one to discuss Strengths and Weaknesses and the second to discuss Governance; the groups then came back together to report on their discussions. At the end of the session, M. Motte presented a summary of his and S. Grice's new proposal: "Proposed Strategic Planning Work with the Board."

12. Discussion of PCL Finances [FY 16 deficit and FY 17]

E. Schwartz reviewed the current financial situation and noted the PCL's \$100,000 "cushion" is being used now and we should be raising an additional \$100,000 this year. A handout listed options for reducing expenses, and the board was invited to send ideas to Sue or Ellen. D.

Schimberg suggested a special board meeting to consider the options. A meeting will be scheduled by electronic poll.

13. Public Comment

K. Mcaninch responded to the consultants' presentation, noting some significant changes to job descriptions rewritten by the Leadership Team; she stated the need for more extensive staff involvement. D. Furia spoke to the issue of the former Personnel Committee and to the role of collections management services. Janet Fuentes noted that although the deficit problem is real, there is still lots more to explore in the area of fundraising.

14. Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-26-5(a)(5): discussion related to the acquisition or use of St. Teresa's building as site for Olneyville Library.

A.Graves moved that the meeting go into executive session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5). P. Raub seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 18-0.

15. Motion to return to open session: R. Lee; seconded by M. McKenney. Vote: Unanimous, 17-0. (G. Diaz left during the closed session.)

Motion to seal the minutes: P. Vogel; seconded by A. Graves. Vote: Unanimous, 17-0.

16. Disclosure of vote taken in Executive Session

The Board voted 15-0-2 to approve the following motion by P. Raub and M. McKenney, seconded by K. Wise and A. Chatto: The PCL board is not in favor of going forward with the St. Teresa's project at this time.

Voting in favor: T. Aguilar, A. Chatto, J. Dagle, D. Del Gais, M. Gardner, A. Graves, M. Lawrence, M. McKenney, S. Nhongvongsouthy, P. Raub, B. Rodriquez, D. Schimberg, E. Schwartz, P. Vogel, K. Wise. Abstaining: R. Lee, C. Wilmot.

17. Adjournment

M. McKenney moved to adjourn the meeting; M. Gardner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle  
Secretary