

Providence Community Library  
Special Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes  
April 11, 2016  
Knight Memorial Library

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Cyndie Wilmot called the meeting to order at 5:40 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, Christine Kue, Matthew Lawrence, Mark McKenney, Patricia Raub, Deborah Schimberg, Ellen Schwartz, Cyndie Wilmot, and Ken Wise. Avital Chatto, Elena Chiaradio, Althea Graves, Rochelle Lee, Silaphone Nhongvongsouthy, and Pam Vogel arrived after the roll, making the final count 18 members present.

Absent: Christian Caldarone, Grace Diaz, Alan Gunther, Janet Pichardo, Bianca Rodriguez.

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

C. Wilmot introduced Ellen Lynch Kinnane, the facilitator for the discussion. Ellen explained the meeting outcomes and noted that decisions and votes would be deferred to the April 18 meeting of the Board. She outlined the plan for the meeting.

E. Schwartz reviewed the financial statement showing the estimated end of year operating funds (through June 30, 2016) compared to the annual budget. Steve Kumins reviewed the fund development projection (through June 30).

Ellen (the facilitator) and Sue Gibbs reviewed the list of strategies for cutting expenses. Ellen guided the discussion as the board asked questions regarding the options. At the end of the discussion, she gathered additional suggestions and asked that others be sent to Sue. She noted that the board needed to be clear for the April 18 meeting about what the target is.

3. Public Comment

D. Furia noted that most of the suggestions for cutting expenses are invisible to the public, but she stated that these should be visible and should be shared equitably. K. Mcaninch spoke to the issue of across-the-board layoffs and equal sharing of the burden. Janet Fuentes spoke to the fundraising challenge of going outside our usual pool and reaching non-patrons in Providence.

M. McKenney (who will not be able to be at the next meeting) agreed that we need to get the city to notice but that we cannot make empty threats. He noted that “we came into this in order to keep

libraries open,” and indicated that he would consider closing for 2 or 4 weeks when we are less busy.

4. Adjournment

E. Schwartz moved to adjourn the meeting; D. Del Gais seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle  
Secretary