

Providence Community Library
Board of Directors Minutes
September 18, 2017
Annual Meeting
Tech Collective, Olneyville

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Cyndie Wilmot called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

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

Present: Avital Chatto, Elena Chiaradio, Joan Dagle, Deborah Del Gais, Margaret Gardner, Althea Graves, Judanne Hamidzada, Christine Kue, Matthew Lawrence, Mark McKenney, Patricia Raub, Deborah Schimberg, Ellen Schwartz, Pamela Vogel, Cyndie Wilmot, and Ken Wise.

Absent: Tony Aguilar, Rochelle Lee.

2. Minutes

D. Del Gais moved to accept the minutes of July 17, 2017 as recorded. Second: M. Lawrence. Motion passed unanimously, 16-0.

3. Election of At-Large Board Members

C. Wilmot introduced P. Raub to present the slate of nominees recommended by the Governance Committee for re-election or election to at-large positions for 2-year terms: Ellen Schwartz and Tony Aguilar (re-election); and Kendra Brewster (election). There were no nominations from the floor.

Vote to approve the nomination of E. Schwartz: 16-0 (unanimous).

Vote to approve the nomination of T. Aguilar: 15-1. Voting in favor: A. Chatto, E. Chiaradio, J. Dagle, D. Del Gais, M. Gardner, A. Grave, J. Hammidzada, M. Lawrence, M. McKenney, P. Raub, D. Schimberg, E. Schwartz, P. Vogel, C. Wilmot, K. Wise. Opposed: C. Kue.

Vote to approve the nomination of K. Brewster: 15-1. Voting in favor: A. Chatto, E. Chiaradio, J. Dagle, D. Del Gais, M. Gardner, A. Grave, J. Hammidzada, M. Lawrence, M. McKenney, P. Raub, D. Schimberg, E. Schwartz,

P. Vogel, C. Wilmot, K. Wise. Opposed: C. Kue.

4. Election of Board Officers

P. Raub presented the slate of nominees recommended by the Governance Committee for re-election as board officers for 1-year terms: C. Wilmot, President; M. Lawrence, Vice President; E. Schwartz, Treasurer; Joan Dagle, Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor.

Vote to elect the four nominees: 16-0, unanimous.

5. Award Presentations

Cheryl Space introduced the Champion Readers Award for the Summer Reading Program. Garrett Locke presented the award to All-Star Eduardo Godoy (6615 minutes), and Jennifer Romans presented the award to All-Star Juleiny Benjamin (6140 minutes).

C. Wilmot presented a special gift to Mark McKenney, marking his final official board meeting, for his years of service to PCL as a founder, a past president, and an active board member. On behalf of the board, she expressed her deep gratitude to Mark, a sentiment echoed in the board's standing ovation.

C. Wilmot presented the second annual PCL Employee of the Year awards to Ayesha Thompson and Rod Burkett, with citations from U. S. Senators Reed and Whitehouse.

She next presented the Volunteer of the Year awards to Carolyn Brown and Sue Greenfield.

Jeff Cannell, Library Director, announced that the first Library Champion Award was being given to Brent Runyon, Executive director of the Providence Preservation Society.

6. Speakers Program

J. Cannell introduced David Sok, PCL's IT Manager, who reviewed PCL's impressive IT achievements, including the Storycorps project and the Computer Builder workshop.

J. Cannell then introduced Cathren Housley, artist and filmmaker, who told the story of the making of her animated film "The Land of the Skyfighter," which uses the art by PCL kids in the workshops she led. The film was screened in its entirety after the meeting adjourned.

7. Grand Prize Drawing

J. Cannell drew the winning entry for the grand prize for the 9 Libraries in 9 Weeks

Campaign: Jackson Swallow from Mt. Pleasant Library.

8. Library Director's Closing Comments

J. Cannell told the audience about his childhood library: a beautiful building that had been a former branch station of the NY Central RR, filled now with nothing but books. He talked about his later understanding that libraries have a crucial role to play in times of confusion and change, and that they themselves are ever-changing organisms. He noted that the new strategic planning process was underway, and that whatever changes occur, the library will continue as a safe place, and a place in which to invent the future.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dagle
Secretary