

CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

A meeting of the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday June 15, 2022 at 6:06p at the William Hall Library.

Present were:

Jack Tregar

Michael Goldberg

Diane Schaefer

Taino Palermo

Larry Warner (arrived at 6:08p)

Edward Garcia, Library Director

Julie Holden, Assistant Library Director

Robin Nyzio, Branch Librarian, William Hall

Excused: *Regina Spirito , Mary Ann Slocomb*

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Taino Palermo to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 18, 2022. Michael Goldberg seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Taino Palermo to move into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (2) at 6:07 pm. Michael Goldberg seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

A motion was made by Taino Palermo to move out of the Executive Session at 6:45 pm. Larry Warner seconded. Motion carried (5-0). No votes were taken during the Executive Session.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board agreed to move new business items before the Library Administration Report.

A motion was made by Larry Warner to approve the Nepotism Policy. Diane Schaefer seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to approve the Website Accessibility Statement. Diane Schaefer seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Administration

-The new CPL website is almost complete and will hopefully launch by the end of June. The Board of Trustees will receive a preview of the site at the June meeting.

-Our membership agreement for FY23 with Ocean State Libraries was executed on June 7th.

Buildings & Grounds

-Exterior stairs for an emergency exit at Oaklawn were replaced.

-The project to seal and paint the windows and doors at Auburn has been completed except for new brass kick plates which are still on order.

-Rotten wood in the door frame and front gable at Knightsville has been replaced and painted.

-DeLuca Landscaping completed work at Central and Auburn. DeLuca will also be doing some work to clean up the property at the Oaklawn branch.

-The library van needed two small repairs that the city garage was able to take care of.

-We are working on fixing a drainage issue in the Auburn branch program room restroom. The drain cover and flooring of the restroom are being replaced.

Programs

-On June 4, 2022, CPL partnered with OneCranston HEZ to present a block party event called "Connecting Four Cranston " - featuring activities at Central Library, Oak Lawn Branch, Auburn Branch, and William Hall Library. Each station highlighted the four working groups at OCHEZ: trauma informed community, healthy and nutrition, youth opportunities, and built environment. We had a lot of fun at this event, with between 30-60 attendees participating at each location.

-Summer Reading Program- The Summer Reading Program starts in late June. Program brochures for the Youth, Teen and Adult programs are enclosed with this report. The Youth Services Department worked with our Communications Manager Sarah Bouvier to create two 6 minute videos to promote the program this year. Those videos were shown in classrooms, are posted on the CPL and Cranston Schools websites and were sent out in a weekly email to all parents. The links were emailed to the trustees and are included here:

[Kids Summer Reading Video](#)

[Teen Summer Reading Video](#)

-On May 7th a group of thirteen teen volunteers worked for two hours to make beautiful hand-made birthday cards for retired Sgt. Victor Butler. Sgt. Victor Butler turned 100 on May 21st and is believed to be the last surviving Tuskegee airman in Rhode Island. Turn to 10 ran an article on Butler and his life, including a PO box where birthday cards could be sent, inspiring this teen volunteer opportunity. The teens had a blast making him cards and writing him very sweet and sincere well wishes.

-On May 21st at our monthly Service Saturday program, teen volunteers helped to sticker over 12,000 children's books for Reach Out and Read Rhode Island. This literacy initiative provides books to pediatricians to give out to children at their annual check up.

-CPL launched our new video conferencing equipment at Central and William Hall. This equipment is offered free to patrons for job interviews, meetings and telehealth visits. This was funded by a grant from the Office of Library and Information Services using ARPA funding.

Staff

-Elena Rios, part time librarian graduated in May from Simmons with her BA and MLS.

-Cassidy Mills, part time librarian graduated in May from URI with her MLIS.

-Tayla Cardillo, Oaklawn branch librarian was inducted into Beta Phi Mu at last month's Rhode Island Library Association conference. Beta Phi Mu is the international honor society for library and information studies.

-Ed Garcia will be attending the ALA Annual Conference June 23-28 in Washington DC.

-Ed Garcia was elected to be the Rhode Island Library Association Chapter Councilor to the ALA Council. This is a three year term. This will be Ed's first term as a Chapter Councilor, he previously served for 10 years as a Councilor-at-Large.

-Ed Garcia attended an ALA Broadband & Digital Inclusion workshop June 1-2 in Washington DC. Ed was one of 42 attendees from across the US and participated in policy discussions around federal funding for broadband infrastructure and digital inclusion.

-Rhode Island Library Association Annual Conference

The Rhode Library Association (RILA) annual conference was held on May 25 & 26 at Bryant University, and several CPL staff were presenters. Julie Holden and Tayla Cardillo served on the Conference Committee. Teen librarian Alyssa Taft presented during "Book Talk Blitz", while Adult Services Coordinator Dave Bartos and Oaklawn librarian Tayla Cardillo held a live taping of the "Down Time" podcast with acclaimed author Jarrett Krosoczka in front of a studio audience. Ed Garcia & Karen Mellor (RI Chief of Library Services) nominated Elyse Wasch for the Library Champion Award. Elyse recently left the office of Senator Jack Reed where she served for 25

years as his Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director. Elyse was directly responsible for most of the library-related legislation that was introduced in Congress during that time. She traveled to RI from Washington DC to attend and accept the award. ALA President-elect Lessa Pelayo-Lozada attended the conference and was the Wednesday keynote speaker. Ed helped arrange a schedule of library visits for her during her time in Rhode Island. Visits took place at Park View Middle School, Cranston Central Library and Providence Public Library. A visit with URI LIS students was also scheduled for her.

Additions to Admin Report:

-Alyssa Taft was made acting Youth Services Coordinator while Emily is out on maternity leave.

-Edna Hutchins, children's librarian, is retiring after 33 years. Her job is being posted this week.

-The June staff meeting featured Mayor Hopkins giving out 2 citations; one for Edna's retirement, and one for the 51 straight years of service from Linda Diprete, who was a Cranston school teacher starting in 1971. We also gave out "longevity" pins to several staff who had completed 10+ years of service. The staff meeting concluded with a 1-hour training session "Trans 101 for Libraries" by professor Stephen Krueger.

-The CPLA approved \$4425 in funds for the Summer Reading Program

-This year's House budget included full funding for library state aid for the first time in over 10 years.

-The library and the board congratulate Taino Palermo for graduating from law school.

ATTACHMENTS:

Cranston Herald article - video conferencing equipment

Summer Reading Program brochures

BUDGET REPORT:

The budget report was distributed reflecting July 1, 2021 - May 31, 2022.

Ed Garcia circulated a year-end budget forecast as well.

HALL LIBRARIAN REPORT:

Robin Nyzio presented her report on the programs and various updates of the William Hall Library.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on the FY2023 Library Operating Budget:

Ed Garcia updated the board on the FY2023 Library Operating Budget status.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ed Garcia introduced the bylaws revision to the board for review at the next board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:35p

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to adjourn the meeting. Diane Schaefer seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0).