

CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

A meeting of the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday January 12, 2022 at 6:02p at the Central Library.

Present were:

Jack Tregar

Michael Goldberg

Taino Palermo

Diane Schaefer

Mary Ann Slocomb

Regina Spirito

Larry Warner (arrived 6:11p)

Edward Garcia, Library Director

Julie Holden, Assistant Library Director

Allyson Quintanilla, Administrative Assistant, Board Secretary

Members Absent:

MINUTES: 6:02p

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 8, 2021. Mary Ann Slocomb seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION REPORT: 6:09p

Administration

-In compliance with Governor McKee's executive order on December 15th and with updated guidance from the RI Office of Library Services, CPL instituted a mask mandate for all patrons and staff through January 18, 2022. This mandate has since been updated to mid-February.

-COVID program postponements: with the high rates of COVID, we reviewed our program schedule for the month of January and made some adjustments. Our new round of preschool programs was scheduled to start on 1/10, we moved the start date to 1/24. We have canceled Open Tech Time for two weeks. We have moved computer classes at Hall, ESL classes at Auburn and Conversation classes at

Central to virtual. Rhode Coders, adult computer coding classes start date has been postponed until February.

-Right before the Christmas break, we were contacted by the Office of Library & Information Services letting us know that they had 180 rapid test kits to give us. These were intended to go to patrons so they could test at home. We gave out 90 test kits at Central and 90 test kits at Hall. We did not advertise them online, only put a sign on the door. They went within 24 hours. We have not received any more test kits.

Buildings & Grounds

-We had the carpenter install in-table power strips & USB outlets on our 6 tables in the adult low-conversation area. Now patrons have a place to plug in their laptops and phones for easy charging.

Programs

- Healthy Families update: we begin our programming for January, February and March, with Eating Healthy with Diabetes and Hypertension; Eating for Better Brain Health; Our Brains and Healthy Aging; and Meditation for Everyday Living. We are also planning a huge health fair at the Senior Center on March 29. We are working with Pinpoint Translation Services out of Dorcas International to translate as many of our flyers as possible.

-Vaccination clinics: we have partnered with RIDOH to offer 4 vaccination clinics at Hall on Saturdays 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5. These will be for age groups 5-11, and 12+. It was suggested that we see if the police comfort dog would be available to help the kids with their shots, and fortunately, Det. Iacone can bring Cali the comfort dog to each vaccine clinic. Cali is an Australian Labradoodle who is specially trained to work with children. We are also planning on giving out bags with library info, coloring sheets, crayons, and origami projects to each participant.

Cranston Public Library Association-Recap of the CPLA annual meeting held on 1/5/22

The Board of Directors held elections:

Three-year terms ending 1/2025

Jessica David

Lisa Kirshenbaum

Two-year terms ending 1/2024

Gene Emery

Mary Ann Slocomb

Alisson Walsh

One-year term ending 1/2023

Michael Goldberg

Angela Bucci

Slate of Officers

President: Michael Goldberg

Treasurer: Jessica David

Secretary: Mary Ann Slocomb

-The Board of Directors approved revised bylaws and approved the 2022 meeting schedule.

-The Board of Directors approved the creation of a financial policy subcommittee to craft a fiscal controls/financial policy for review at the April meeting. Cranston Public Library Association recent activity

-The CPLA received its yearly disbursement of \$5,554 from the Joseph Merrick Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation.

-The CPLA received a \$10,000 donation from Dr. Sundaresan Sambandam.

-The Junior Friends of the Library recently disbanded as a fundraising group and are now focused on programming and community service as the CPL Teen Team. The Jr. Friends closed their bank account and turned over assets of \$122.49 to the CPLA.

BUDGET REPORT: 6:16p

Ed Garcia presented the fiscal 2021 budget. We completed the year under budget.

The budget report was distributed reflecting July 1, 2021 - December 30, 2021.

Legal services expenditures are higher than normal because of this year's Union contract negotiations, which was expected.

The library has received the first two quarterly state aid disbursements.

The Gifts and Restricted Accounts Report was reviewed. This report will be shared with the Trustees every six months.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: 6:24p

Negotiations with the union on a new collective bargaining agreement are ongoing. The Union has made a proposal. Another meeting is scheduled tomorrow, 1/13/22, to discuss.

Ed Garcia's contract is up for renewal on 3/31/22. The committee will be meeting on 2/1/22 to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers: 6:25p

The committee elected Jack Tregar as chair, and Regina Spirito as co-chair for another term.

Approval of 2021 annual report: 6:28p

A 2021 Annual Report was sent to each board member.

The board approved the 2021 Annual Report (7-0).

Appoint Liaison to CPLA: 6:29p

The newly revised CPLA Board of Directors bylaws state that Ed Garcia can not fulfill the role of Library Director and liaison to the CPLA. Michael Goldberg, as a member of both the CPLA and a Trustee, volunteered to fulfill the role of liaison to the CPLA.

Review of 2022 Capital Budget: 6:33p

Ed Garcia proposed requesting funding for two projects: repaving the central parking lot, and renovating the Auburn Branch. This renovation will entail installing new bathrooms, building a new entrance with a vestibule and automatic doors, replacing the walls and ceiling, installing new LED lighting, renovating the outdoor area to include paving and seating, renovating the book drop, and replacing the exterior siding.

The board approved the 2022 Capital Budget requests (7-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT: 6:47p

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:50p

A motion was made by Larry Warner to adjourn the meeting. Michael Goldberg seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).