

Board of Trustees, 10/12/2021

Committee: Greenfield Public Library Board of Trustees

Place: Virtually

Date: October 12, 2021

Posted Meeting Time: 5:00pm

Call to Order: Doris Cowdrey called the meeting to order at 5:02pm

Chairperson's statement: This meeting is not being recorded by the Library Board of Trustees. If any other persons present are recording this meeting, they must notify the chairperson at this time.

Roll Call: Bill Benson, Ed Berlin, Jonathan Cohen-Gorczyca, Doris Cowdrey, Joseph Ruggeri, Sam Wood

Other: Ellen Boyer (Director), Lisa Prolman (Ass't Director), Paul Jablon

Public: Bob Williford

- Changes/Additions to the Agenda
 - none
- Public Comment
 - none
- Approval of minutes from September Meeting

MOTION: On a motion by Joseph seconded by Ed, it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the September meeting minutes with amendments

- Friends Report
 - working on selling more raffle tickets, which will most likely be the main fundraiser for the year except for membership drive
 - foot traffic in library is down, but will be at PumpkinFest in Turners and hope to sell more tickets at that event
- New Business
 - Slate of Officers
 - Discussion of how to handle election
 - suggestion to nominate same slate of officers as last year
 - agreement from members of board

MOTION: On a motion by Joseph Ruggeri seconded by Jonathan Cohen-Gorczyca, it was

VOTED: To accept Doris Cowdrey as chair

MOTION: On a motion by Joseph Ruggeri seconded by Bill Benson, it was

VOTED: To accept Ed Berlin as vice chair

MOTION: On a motion by Joseph Ruggeri seconded by Doris Cowdrey, it was

VOTED: To accept Jonathan Cohen-Gorczyca as treasurer

- New Board Member

- hasn't been sent to Council yet but should be on the next agenda
- Old Business and Committee Reports
 - Building Committee
 - Historic commission public hearing happened and behavior was not what one would wish for
 - Certain aspects of the Open Meeting law were not followed by attendees
 - committee members discovered at meeting there was an injunction hearing set for the following morning
 - request for a preliminary injunction was denied; suit is still active but is moot
 - Foundation
 - Community campaign is working on a telethon which will be created in Zoom to be COVID safe and broadcast on multiple platforms
 - November 18 on GCTV and WHAI
 - event will also livestream on social media
 - 2 events happened in September
 - smaller events at private homes
 - some new donor and other current donors who have increased their donations
 - current pledges are hovering around \$1.9 million
 - hoping to wrap up at the end of the year
 - Lending Policy and User Agreement for Hot Spots
 - Discussion of policy and agreement

MOTION: On a motion by Jonathan Cohen-Gorczyca seconded by Joe Ruggeri, it was unanimously **VOTED:** To continue the pilot program until the policy can be formally voted on

- Director's Report
 - We need a waiver again due to funding from the city
 - funding requirements are built into the Commonwealth's statutes
 - waivers were reset due to COVID
 - we needed one last year, which makes this our 2nd year
 - it is possible that once employee contracts are negotiated (2nd year out) that we may either no longer need the waiver or be close enough to convince the Mayor to allocate additional funding to the library
 - We are hoping the contract negotiations will enable us to withdraw our waiver application
 - After 5 years, we might have to return the building grant money
 - also will make us ineligible to for other state grants
 - will impact our ability to remain members of CWMARS, which would be disastrous
 - monies must come directly to the library from city council

- Discussion of how trustees can advocate for additional funding for the library's budget and how guidelines from the MBLC affect how the library is currently being run
- Discussion of closing front doors
 - As it is a safety issue and not a political one, consensus is to do it at the last week in October as planned

MOTION: On a motion by Bill Benson seconded by Jonathan Cohen-Gorczyca, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting

Meeting ended at 5:49pm.