

Minutes of the Board of Library Trustees, Public Library of Brookline

A hybrid meeting of the Trustees of the Public Library was convened on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 6:15 PM.

Present: Burstein; Chanyasukit; Goleman; Hung; Livingston; Lohe; Margolis; Martin-Page; Zelkha

Absent: Fredkin; Vanderkay; Vogt

Also present: Library Director, A. Hirst; Assistant Director for Administration, D. Savin,

Trustees voted to convene the meeting.

All votes were conducted by roll call vote.

I. Comments from the Chair

- A. Hung and Board celebrate Library Director Hirst's and Assistant Director for Administration Savin's salary increases
- B. Zelkha explains Town of Brookline's new approach to public's participation in public Zoom meetings

II. Comments from the Public (3 minute limit)

- A. Member of public voices support for recent salary increases for Director and Assistant Director for Administration; asks if rest of staff will also receive increases; also asks about possibility of adding a social worker to library; Martin-Page asks member of public to explain what social services they would like to see PLB offer; member of public answers mental health, housing, health insurance, general community support; Lohe offers that staff salaries need to be addressed during collective bargaining

III. Secretary's Report

- A. Minutes

1. No comments received about the June 2024 minutes; Lohe makes motion to approve minutes; Livingston seconds; Board votes to approve the June 2024 minutes

B. Correspondence

1. No new correspondence received since June 2024 meeting

C. Other items

1. No other items to discuss

IV. Treasurer's Report

A. Other

1. Lohe received June 30, 2024 statement from State Street; will circulate it electronically to Board; the ending market value for FY24 was just shy of \$5 million dollars
2. Investment Committee, in partnership with State Street, came up with a scenario that makes no real substantive changes to the portfolio but moves to institutional commingled funds to help save on fees; Lohe requests Board's approval to make these changes; Margolis states that the Board historically deferred to Investment Committee to make these changes; Burstein adds that the Board has officially given authority to Investment Committee to make any changes they deem necessary; Martin-Page questions if this approval is in perpetuity, states that this isn't in our by-laws, and recommends Board to implement way of memorializing these decisions; Lohe suggests Executive Committee or Finance Committee determine procedure for this

3. Zelkha makes a motion to authorize the Investment Committee to move forward with new portfolio recommended by State Street; Livingston seconds; Board unanimously approves motion

V. Library Director's Report

- A. Hirst explains that the Public Library of Brookline participated in a news segment about libraries with Ted Reinstein, that the Summer Reading program kicked off in June, and that all Libraries will be closed on July 23 for Staff Development Day
- B. Hirst informs Board that one part-time staff member resigned and that the Select Board approved the changing of the open position in Reference Department to be a Library Assistant III
- C. Hirst informs Board that PLB ended FY24 on budget and had some extra funds through personnel savings to fund new carpeting and paint in the Brookline Village Library
- D. Hirst offers insights and experiences from July's American Library Association annual conference
- E. Burstein asks about installation of automated materials handling system; Hirst explains that it will be installed in the Circulation Room at the Brookline Village location

VI. Trustee Committee Reports

- A. Other
 1. No discussion

VII. Old Business

- A. Staff Retention
 1. No discussion
- B. Trustee Committees

1. Hung reminds the Board of last month's discussion about tweaking Trustee Committees structure; explains plan to create 1) Library Functions Committee which combines existing Buildings and Grounds Committee and Policy Committee and 2) Advocacy and Community Relations Committee; also brings up need to discuss the DEI Committee's charter
2. Margolis speaks on behalf of Vanderkay due to her absence; Vanderkay disagrees with combining Buildings and Grounds Committee and Policy Committee; Zelkha states that these two committee require different skill sets; general discussion ensues where Board members posit their thoughts
3. Hung clarifies that Board won't make any decisions on this today because all Trustees need to be provided with the amendments for at least 30 days; this will be voted on at September meeting
4. Hung informs Board to reach out to her with any additional concerns, recommendations, etc. about committee consolidation proposal

VIII. New Business

A. 2% General Wage Increase for non-Union Staff

1. Hung asks for a motion to approve 2% wage increase for non-Union staff; Burstein makes the motion; Board approves motion unanimously

B. Trust Fund Stipulations

1. Discussion tabled until Hirst learns more from Town Counsel

IX. Remarks for the Good of the Order

- A. Hung expresses appreciation for tonight's conversation; moves for Board to go on break for August and have next Board meeting be September 10, 2024; Livingston seconds; Board approves motion unanimously

X. Adjourn

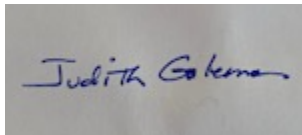
- A. Lohé motions to adjourn meeting; Livingston seconds; Board votes unanimously to adjourn the meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Minutes drafted by Courtney Hesslein

A true record.

ATTEST

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith Goleman".

Judith Goleman
Secretary
2024-2025