

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, June 11, 2024, at 6:16 PM.

Present: Burstein; Fredkin; Goleman; Hung; Livingston; Lohe; Margolis; Vanderkay; Vogt

Absent: Martin-Page; Chanyasulkit; Zelkha

Also present: Library Director, A. Hirst; Assistant Director for Administration, D. Savin; Branch Supervisor - Coolidge Corner, S. McDonald; Circulation Supervisor, S. Durkin; Youth Services Supervisor, J. Kellndorfer; Branch Supervisor - Putterham, G. O'Day; Executive Assistant to the Library Director, C. Hesslein

Trustees voted to convene the meeting.

All votes were conducted by roll call vote.

I. Comments from the Chair

- A. Hung introduces to the Board Shannon McDonald, Branch Supervisor at Coolidge Corner

II. Comments from the Public (3 minute limit)

- A. No members of the public present

III. Action Item Reports:

- A. Delivery of Library Materials to Homebound Patrons - Sar Durkin

- 1. Durkin presents to Board about the Library's program to deliver library materials to homebound patrons in Brookline; explains the program's logistics, highlights, challenges, and statistics; provides overview of program's next steps, evolved goals, and participant testimonials

- B. Expanding Access to the Public Library in Public Housing Communities - Julie Kellndorfer and Ginger O'Day

1. KelIndorfer and O'Day present to Board about the Library's program to increase access to Library services in Brookline's public housing communities; explain the special programming and outreach visits PLB staff and partners completed at BHA sites, as well as the project's barriers and recommendations for future collaboration

IV. Secretary's Report

A. Minutes

1. No comments received about the May 2024 minutes; Lohe makes motion to approve minutes; Margolis seconds; Board votes unanimously to approve the May 2024 minutes

B. Correspondence

1. No new correspondence received since May 2024 meeting

C. Other items

1. No other items to discuss

V. Treasurer's Report

A. Other

1. Lohe shares that the endowment surpassed \$5 million dollars; informs Board that all fundraising groups (Trustees, Foundation, Friends) met in May to discuss approaches to spending; all groups are aligned on the approach where Trustees fund behind-the-scenes items with the Foundation and Friends funding public programs so as to help with their fundraising missions

VI. Library Director's Report

- A. Hirst provides update on ARPA Round 1 and 2 funding; the Bookmobile grant was moved into Round 3, so that money is still available to use for a bookmobile; the PLB is continuing the search into the most effective vehicle
- B. Hirst informs Board that the automated materials handler remains on track for installation in July 2024; informs Board that the construction fence for the Pierce demolition projects is slated to go up in mid-July; this work will partition the Library garage and leave 16 spaces available for Library staff and patron parking; informs Board that new carpet is being installed on Brookline Village's Main floor
- C. Hirst reiterates that Town Meeting approved the Town's budget which included the Library's budget
- D. Hirst informs Board that PLB has hired 3 new part-time Library Assistants recently

VII. Trustee Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee

1. Hung leads discussion about potentially consolidating and / or renaming some Trustee Committees, so as to better define the charter and work for each, to streamline workloads, and to better assign Trustees to particular workstreams; Hung presents to Board her proposals to consolidate Committees, put on hiatus some Committees, or rename Committees
2. Various Board members express opinions about Hung's proposal; some question the rationale for consolidating distinct committees that have distinct workstreams; some offer support as consolidation would allow for Trustees to get broader context into the full range of committee work as opposed to the current siloed approach
3. Trustees discuss how keeping dedicated committees (rather than one larger one with all Trustees part of it) will be more effective; discuss how

all current Committees revolve around 4 central themes: internal Library matters, internal Trustees matters, external collaboration / partnership matters, and financial matters

a) Board discusses option of having four major Committees based on these categories, where each Trustee is expected to take on the work assigned to them; discuss how this approach can help with getting to quorum and scheduling

4. Hung reiterates that Board won't make a decision on consolidation now and will continue the discussion in future meeting; Hung asks for motion to extend the current Committees and their assignments to September so as to grant time to decide how to approach consolidation; Livingston moves that we extend our current Committee structure and assignments to and including the September meeting; Margolis seconds; the Board votes unanimously to extend

B. Other

1. No discussion

VIII. Old Business

A. Staff Retention

1. No discussion

IX. New Business

A. No discussion

X. Remarks for the Good of the Order

A. Hung thanks Board for constructively voicing opinions about Committee consolidation proposal

XI. Adjourn

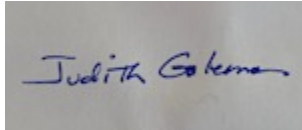
A. Livingston motions to adjourn meeting; Lohe seconds; Board votes unanimously
to adjourn the meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 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