

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Monday, March 1, 2021

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting vis Zoom

In Attendance: Jeremy Clemans, Chris Casco, Ray Conner, the Library Director-Todd Fabian, Becky Herrmann, Norman Kinsler, Michelle Marino, Charles O'Leary, Lisa Sands, Ali Sekou, Rebecca Kasten

- Call to Order: B. Herrmann calls the meeting to order 6:04 pm
- Library Director reads COVID-19 Executive Order 2020-04
- Meet Becky Kasten, the new Youth Services Manager
 - Board members introduced themselves to Rebecca
 - Rebecca introduced herself and talked about her background
- C. O'Leary moves to accept the minutes of the February 1, 2020, monthly meeting, N. Kinsler seconds.
- Library Director's Report & Update on COVID Plans
 - Budget season - goes to city council later in spring. Things are progressing along - business as usual budget-wise
 - Lined up 3 summer concerts in June, July, and August.
 - One in Eagle Square, one in Keach Park, and one on Prince Street
 - Starting to plan for summer reading - online and in-house staff programs for summer
 - Pandemic-wise - considering getting patrons back into the library - discussing with the city administration and other libraries. We were last doing 30 people in the facility at a time or we may start with a smaller quantity.
 - Will be opening one of the bins soon in front of the library to go along with our 24/7 side bin.
 - The Heights branch will open before Penacook branch since it is easier to manage with all the pandemic protocols that we have to follow.
 - New programs - library journal diversity program - add-on programs -can go back a few months and watch the sessions - Key note with Don Lemon was very well done – about 10 library staff were able to watch one of the diversity sessions live and there are 2 more components to that program.
 - Discussion about Women's History month - B. Kasten discussed the what the Children's department will be doing (Mae Jemison on Wednesday)
- Old Business
 - Ongoing discussion of next steps for Library expansion
 - B. Herrmann talked about what kind of marketing pieces we need to produce to get the word on the project out to the community about why we need to expand the library
 - Staff input would be needed first due to them recognizing the currently library limitations the most
 - The Director will look into what some of the new libraries in the state have done for marketing their new libraries.
 - Staff will answer questionnaires regarding what they believe is needed in a new library

- New Business
 - Foundation update – A. Sekou
 - The update for the library renovation project was shared
 - B. Kasten attended the Foundation meeting
 - Foundation will purchase a new display case
 - Foundation members asked how patrons can renew library cards - they can renew online or at curbside
 - Foundation asked if there has been an increase in digital resources
 - The boy in the turtle sculpture (Age of Wonder statue)- setting up an account to make donations -Discussion on how will the city garner those funds to keep the sculpture in Concord
 - How can the library help newcomers and immigrants access the library? Contact organization in Manchester from Oris - Organization for Immigrant and Refugee Success - to see how they can help
 - The Yates award was discussed. It honors Concord resident and children’s author Elizabeth Yates and is given to someone in the Concord community who has encouraged reading
 - Discussed the Foundation’s role in general as far as community literacy is concerned.
 - Trustee appointment status
 - C. O’Leary, L. Sands, and M. Marino are interested in staying on the CPL Board of Trustees
- L. Sands asked if we can get data from the last year to determine how the pandemic has affected Reference inquiry or what services the community has needed and utilized from the CPL.
 - The Director said there will be information coming in the Spring about that.
 - B. Herrmann would like to know how the CPL staff is doing in general. Is there anything that the Board can do for them?
 - The Director is going to start back up mental fatigue checks with the library staff- similar to what was done when all staff were virtual last year.
- Public Comments
 - None
- Next meeting: April 5, 2021
- R. Connor motions to adjourn at 7:03 pm