

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
January 15, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was held in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices, Tuesday, January 15, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Board President John Holman. Other Board members present were Jane Eickhoff, Paul Schwab, Aaron Slater, and Maureen Walsh David.

Others in attendance were: Paula Miller, Natalie Edington, Linda Frederick, Emily Gamertsfelder, Cynthia Kleback, Megan Menon, Helen Rowe and Jody Sharp. A list of those in attendance, but not presenting to the Board, will be kept on file for one year.

COMMUNICATIONS

Minutes

The minutes from the December 18, 2018 meeting were approved. **(Eickhoff/Walsh David)**

Correspondence

None.

Public Comments

None.

Upcoming Events

Maryland Library Legislative Day will be February 5, 2019 and an evening reception is planned. Art With a Heart, an art show featuring works by BCPL staff, will be held on February 9, at Hereford. There will be a reception at 6pm and tickets are available on the Foundation website. The next Board meeting will be held at Woodlawn, starting at 8:30 am. National Library Week is April 7-13, with meet-and-greet sessions at various branches.

REPORTS

Director's Report (Miller)

Director Miller shared highlights from the Director's Report. Rosedale and Woodlawn Branch staff are participating in the "Excite" grant focusing on teen services. BCPL is continuing outreach to the Hickey School by Parkville Branch. BCPL hopes to offer Girls Who Code curriculum in library programs for youth. 3D printing requests are on the rise: Virtual and Media Service staff have trained and certified teens at Randallstown in 3D printing. Catonsville hosted a Citizenship Informational Seminar, which was hosted by a representative from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The Passport Acceptance sites will be piloting Sunday passport acceptance services due to demand for the service.

Foundation Legislative Breakfast (Frederick)

The Foundation hosted a breakfast for Baltimore County Legislators in anticipation of BCPL's participation in Maryland Library Legislative Day. The event was well attended and staff were able to make connections with legislators in an informal setting.

Maryland Library Legislative Day (Edington)

Maryland Library Legislative Day will be held on February 5, 2019. Six BCPL staff will be attending to speak with legislators or their aids. There are no specific legislative “asks”, so the focus will be on maintaining current per capita funding levels and grant dollars. This year’s visits will also emphasize the “Es of Libraries” – particularly Employment, Education, and Entrepreneurship.

Staff Reports

Finance Report (Rowe)

Ms. Rowe reviewed the Financial Report. Expenditures as expected.

Foundation Quarterly Report (Frederick)

Ms. Frederick updated the Board on recent Foundation activities for the last quarter. Donor spotlight videos were created for use on social media. The Foundation welcomed three new Board members, launched a successful end of the year giving appeal, and is discussing funding for the upcoming Reisterstown Center of Excellence.

Board Reports

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is continuing to monitor requests for FY 20 funds and reviewing revenue projections. The Committee members noted how helpful the staff Budget Advisory Group’s feedback is to the process.

Board President

Mr. Holman attended the Legislative Breakfast and the annual Board and Foundation Board joint networking/social event. Meetings with the County Executive and his team have been helpful in shaping the draft FY 20 Budget request.

After reconsidering holding Board meetings in the evening, it was decided that beginning in February, Board meetings will begin at 8:30 am.

OLD BUSINESS

FY 2020 Budget (Rowe)

Director Miller and Ms. Rowe worked with the Finance Committee and Budget Advisory Group to refine the draft FY 20 budget. The county’s budget process and timeline is a little different this year, and information is still coming through. As a first step, they are requesting each agency/department to look for efficiencies and collaborations that might generate some savings. BCPL is consolidating copier contracts and examining meeting room fees, for instance. The deadline for BCPL’s budget proposal approval is the Board’s February Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Perry Hall Sensory Zone (Kleback/Menon)

A new Sensory Exploration Zone recently opened this month at the Perry Hall Branch. Funded by the Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library and the Friends of the Perry Hall Library, the Sensory Exploration Zone provides elementary-aged children a calming area where they and their caregivers can explore a variety of sensory-focused items/activities that create an

environment that is both soothing and educational. Funding for the project came from a Foundation for Baltimore County Public Library Microgrant that was matched with Friends of the Perry Hall Library funds.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm (Slater/Schwab).



Submitted by

Secretary of the Board of Library Trustees