

**RICHARD A. MOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 18, 2024**

OPEN

President Geraldine Mola opened the public meeting at 6:02 p.m. in accordance with the NJ Open Public Meeting Act.

ROLL CALL

Present: Kathleen Policano, Stacy Mola, Anthony Iachetti, Jeanne Freitag, and Geraldine Mola.

Absent: Barbara Marquez, Daniela Buscio, and Mayor Colletti

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jeanne Freitag made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 21, 2024 meeting.

Second: Anthony Iachetti

Motion passed unanimously except for Kathleen Policano abstaining.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Treasurer Stacy Mola to authorize November 2024 Bills in the amount of \$28,439.99.

Second: Jeanne Freitag

Motion passed unanimously.

Jeanne Freitag asked for more information on the previous month's high bills.

Kathleen Policano commented on the audit's insurance recommendation. The Trustees briefly discussed and more information on this subject will be gathered.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Geraldine Mola commented on the stanchions being gone and that the electrical outlets are now flat and even with the carpet. The round stickers previously covering the outlets required a carpet cleaner to lift the sign covers and remove the residue. The outlets on the second floor have yet to be, but will be replaced.

Geraldine Mola informed the trustees that the black cabinet that had been damaged in transit had been replaced for free. The damaged but usable cabinet has been moved to the archives.

Geraldine Mola is working on a history grant for this year.

Geraldine Mola reported that Kaitlin Koch has resigned. There will be a disciplinary hearing for another staff member held on November 20th. The Library has been advertising for open

positions, including on Indeed, and has received quite a few applications. Geraldine Mola noted that the Library had received more applications through Indeed however many applicants were unqualified for the position. Still the Library had received enough applications to begin setting up interviews.

The installation in the Children's Room was completed October 30th. A carpenter was called in to secure the moved bookcases to the walls. Some reorganization of books has yet to occur, a new piece of furniture to display toddler books has yet to arrive, and computers and desk have yet to be ordered. The Trustees briefly discussed the renovation.

STAFF REPORTS

Kathleen Policano made a motion to accept the Staff Reports from October 2024.

Second: Anthony Iachetti

Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Building and Grounds

Geraldine Mola reported that the Borough Administrator had sent a heating/cooling company to investigate the building. They didn't think anything was particularly wrong but opened some of the vents. The Trustees discussed the heating and cooling of the back rooms.

Geraldine Mola discussed working with the electrician and Hertz the furniture company on hiding the wires coming from the library computers.

Geraldine Mola discussed difficulties in getting a glazier to come, and that the glazier that had come had not submitted a quote. Another glazier will be coming Wednesday at 2 PM. Stacy Mola discussed a possible vendor for window cleaning after the glazier is finished. If the glazier's quote is decent it was approved to move forward by general consent.

Geraldine Mola briefed the Trustees on the need for snow removal from the Library walkways. The DPW and Borough did not have staff that could help the Library with this. Stacy Mola reported that the Library's landscaping vendor, who had stopped by recently to turn off the sprinklers for winter and adjust some sprinkler locations, tried but was unable to assist the Library with snow removal. She tried a few other possibilities but was unable to find a snow removal vendor. The Trustees discussed possibilities.

Kathleen Policano made a motion to have a delayed opening till noon on any snowy days.

Second: Anthony Iachetti

Motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Mola discussed the logistics of offering the Carousels to the Paterson Library. If this could not be arranged then DPW will deal with the Carousels.

NEW BUSINESS

Geraldine Mola proposed purchasing enclosed cabinets to replace the carts behind the Circulation Desk. The Trustees discussed the current setup, the proposal, and possible future issues that might arise. The Trustees will gather more information and explore different possible options.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Meg Pettigano mentioned that they had seen the job postings on library links and had a question about database access. She also offered to volunteer if needed to provide more information about database resources to patrons.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Kathleen Policano moved to go into Executive Session at 6:43 p.m.

Second: Stacy Mola

Motion passed unanimously.

Kathleen Policano moved to reconvene the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Second: Stacy Mola

Motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Mola added to the President's report that the Library had hired a new Library Assistant, David Pajar.

Kathleen Policano made a motion to give a stipend to Kevin Neary for \$1,000 a month retroactive to August 2023 until a new Director is hired.

Second: Stacy Mola

Motion passed unanimously.

Geraldine Mola mentioned that going forward payroll duties would be assigned to the bookkeeper. Stacy Mola provided information on the current status of Hoopla, the Trustees briefly discussed and agreed to begin Hoopla services in December.

ADJOURNMENT

Geraldine Mola adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.