

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 27, 2021
Recorded virtual meeting

President Nick Ciampa called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Nick stated that the virtual meeting was being held in compliance with the **Open Public Meetings Act**.

Roll Call:

Kevin McNeil	<i>present</i>	Nicholas Ciampa	<i>present</i>	Nabil Choueiri (NBC)	<i>present</i>
Iris Kislin	<i>present</i>	Mayor Kramer	<i>present</i>	Edward Ward	<i>present</i>
Tianna Gresham	<i>excused</i>	Agnes Kulu-Banya	<i>present</i>		
January Adams	<i>present</i>				

Nick turned the meeting over to Parliamentarian January Adams who asked if there were any nominations for the position of President. Kevin nominated Nick and Iris seconded. January asked if there were any other nominations. There being none, she asked for a vote. All were in favor. At this point, the meeting was turned over to President Nick Ciampa.

Nick then asked for nominations for the position of Secretary. Nick nominated Iris Kislin, Kevin seconded and all were in favor.

Nick asked for nominations for the position of Vice President/Treasurer. NBC nominated himself and all were in favor.

Congratulations were offered to the new officers.

Iris motioned to open the meeting to public comment. There being no comments, the meeting was closed to public comments.

NBC motioned to approve the minutes of the December 16 meeting. Kevin seconded and all were in favor.

There being no members of the public signed on for the first public comment portion of the meeting, the first public comment portion of meeting was closed to the public.

Director's Report:

January presented the financial reports of the **Director's report** for the month of December. The financial reports were filed for audit.

January highlighted various aspects of the narrative section of her monthly report. She noted that:

- The Young Adult Librarian has been awarded two grants. The first is a Baker & Taylor/YALSA Collection Grant for \$1,000. The second is a YALSA Great Book Giveaway that could result in the library receiving 1,000 or more books. All of these books are earmarked for the northern branch inside the Youth Center.
- The library's new streaming service, Kanopy, went live this month. Now patrons have access to over 30,000 videos including films, documentaries, series, and children's programming.
- All three winter reading programs are underway.
- Although the number of visitors to the Franklin Park branch decreased by almost half since last December, the number of materials checked out was only down by 428 indicating that patrons are still using the library to check out materials.

President’s Report:

Nick updated the group on the upcoming town hall meeting to provide residents in the area of the proposed new southern branch with information. Board members were encouraged to attend. The architect will be there and Nick will also ask the engineer (Jeff Reynolds) to participate. Nick also stated that the subdivision will be on the Planning Board’s agenda for March 17.

Nick informed the group that he had recently had a tour of the Youth Center that is under construction. He was able to see where the library will be located and remarked that the building is impressive.

Correspondence and communications:

Thank you email from the township’s Parks and Recreation Department for hosting their Giving (Christmas) Tree.

Old Business:

Iris motioned to approve the following resolution. Ed seconded and all were in favor:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE GRANT AWARD OF \$1,314,000 FROM THE CONSTRUCTION BOND ACT AND APPROVING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SOUTHERN BRANCH IN FRANKLIN PARK, NJ.

WHEREAS, the Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees desires to replace its current southern branch that is located in the Franklin Towne Center (a strip mall) with a newly constructed building on its own site and;

WHEREAS, the board established a building fund for this purpose some years ago and located a site for a new building and;

WHEREAS, the library completed a successful New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act grant application and has been awarded a \$1,314,000 grant for the purpose of building a southern branch.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees that the board is accepting the above award and is approving the construction of a new southern branch and will be proceeding with the project.

New Business:

Iris motioned to approve the architectural services contract with Iovino + Arcari Architects as presented and reviewed by the library’s attorney (Michael Cerone). Ed seconded.

Roll Call vote:

Nicholas Ciampa	<i>yes</i>	Iris Kislin	<i>yes</i>	Agnes Kulu-Banya	<i>yes</i>	Kevin McNeil	<i>yes</i>
NBC	<i>yes</i>	Ed Ward	<i>yes</i>	Mayor Kramer	<i>yes</i>		

There being no members of the public signed on for the second public comment portion, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed to the public.

Ed motioned to adjourn, Iris seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:19

The next meeting will be February 24, 2021

January Adams
Director of Library Services