

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 25, 2017
This meeting was videotaped.

President Nick Ciampi called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

It was noted that the meeting was being held in compliance with the **Open Public Meetings Act**.

Roll Call:

Agnes Kulu-Banya	<i>absent</i>	John Clyde	<i>present</i>	Nicholas Ciampa	<i>present</i>
Nabil Choueiri (NBC)	<i>present</i>	Iris Kislin	<i>ill</i>	Mayor Kramer	<i>present</i>
Edward Ward	<i>absent</i>	Tom Lennon	<i>present</i>		
January Adams	<i>present</i>				

John motioned to open the meeting to the public, NBC seconded and all were in favor. There being no comments from the public, John motioned to close the meeting to public comment, NBC seconded and all were in favor.

NBC motioned to accept the minutes from the September 27 meeting. Tom seconded, and with the exception of John Clyde, who abstained, all were in favor.

Director's Report:

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

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

- One thousand three hundred and seventy-two people attended 84 programs held at the library during the last month.
- Staff members had visited township schools during Back to School nights. This gave them the opportunity to speak to families and students about the services that the library provides.
- The MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival had attracted 110 viewers. This was the first time the library had offered this kind of program and all were pleased with its success.

Correspondence and communications:

None

Old Business:

The Mayor cautioned the group not to expand the discussion of property negotiation, slated for the executive session, to related matters, such as the funding for the southern (and northern) branches. Accordingly, John asked about (1) the amount of the library's surplus available for these expansions, (2) the ability of the library to replicate the current Franklin Park branch in a new facility, and (3) whether any thought been given to using a portion of one of the nearby schools for a Youth Center. January replied that the library had \$5 million dollars that had been reserved for new branches and that the current Franklin Park branch could be replicated in a new building with the addition of some shelving and furniture. The staffing would remain the same. Mayor Kramer answered John's third question by explaining that the township had already bought land and demolished the building that was on it for the youth center.

Nick and January had attended the Youth center stakeholders meeting on October 9 and were pleased that the plans included a 1,210 sf space for a northern library branch. Nick distributed copies of the complete center plans with the caveat that the plans were only for the board's use. Under no circumstances were they to be shown to anyone outside of the board.

New Business:

John motioned to accept the 2018 holiday closings as proposed by January. NBC seconded and all were in favor.

January explained the State Aid requirement that library boards of trustees fulfill seven hours each year of continuing education. She had hoped to find an appropriate video or workshop for members to attend, but so far had not found anything appropriate. Instead, she had decided to include articles about libraries and library issues in each month's packet, calculating that each member would spend five minutes reading each article. She also asked for board members to inform her if they had visited other libraries or had otherwise engaged in library related activities, including advocacy.

The following resolution was presented:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the open Public Meetings Act, (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b) (1-9), Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees is of the opinion that such circumstances do exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters:
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - a) Property negotiations
3. The Franklin Township Public Library Board of Trustees may take official action on those items discussed in Executive Session upon completion of the Executive Session.
4. The minutes of the discussions shall be made available to the public as soon as the matters under discussion are no longer of a confidential or sensitive nature.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The aforesaid resolution was moved by John and seconded by Tom. All were in favor and the board adjourned into Executive Session at 6:04 p.m.

Property options and negotiations were discussed during executive session. The meeting was re-opened to the public at 6:37 p.m.

John motioned that January prepare a cost analysis for three library branches for the board to review. Tom seconded and all were in favor.

John motioned that the board obtain a professional appraisal of the property discussed during executive session. Nick seconded and all were in favor. Nick stated that he would get names from the township manager.

The next meeting will be November 15, 2017

John motioned to adjourn the meeting and Tom seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

January Adams
Director of Library Services