

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

This meeting was videotaped.

President Nick Ciampi called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

It was noted that the 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>
Tom Lennon	<i>present</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. Iris nominated Nick and Ed 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 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 11 meeting. Ed seconded and all were in favor.

**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:

- One thousand three hundred and seventy-two people attended 96 programs held at the library and the branch during the last month. Of particular note were the Holiday Magic Show, The Raconteur Radio's radio play of *A Christmas Carol*, and the New Brunswick Jazz project's musical tribute to James P. Johnson.
- The library's adult and children's winter reading programs started on January 15. The teen winter reading program started on December 23 to coincide with the schools' winter break.
- The library has started a new movie series, titled "Throwback Thursday." The first showing was *A Christmas Story*.
- The Adult Services Department has implemented an increased number of 30-minute computer sessions. All 10 slots for January are full.
- Grounds for Sculpture will be discontinuing its participation in public libraries' museum pass program this year. This has been one of FTPL's most popular museum destinations and staff are searching for a worthy replacement.
- As an example of the varied services that the library provides to patrons, January cited two examples that occurred at the branch. The head of circulation helped a patron scan and upload materials, and navigate the confusing immigration website. Later in the month, he successfully assisted a patron recover music that had been saved to the patron's old Nokia phone.

**President's Report:**

None

**Correspondence and communications:**

"Data to the Rescue," *Publishers Weekly*, December 23, 2019

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Iris complemented the Outreach Librarian on the program she presented at the Somerset Run Women’s Club meeting on November 7.

Iris volunteered to write to Grounds for Sculpture thanking them for their participation in the museum pass program and urging them to keep providing this service.

Tom asked if he could provide health information on support groups, lectures, etc. to the library so residents could learn of all the services that are available. This idea was received with enthusiasm and Tom will send the information to January.

The Mayor stated that he would contact the Somerset County Freeholders stating that it is his understanding that the county library is in the habit of rendering assistance to libraries during the application process and that he would like to discuss the opportunities.

Tom motioned to go forward with FTPL’s grant application and to accept the proposal of Arcari and Iovino for preparing and coordinating the grant application for the fee of \$7500. 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>	Tom Lennon	<i>yes</i>	Ed Ward	<i>yes</i>		

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 negotiation & lease renewal and negotiation
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 NBC and seconded by Iris. All were in favor and the board adjourned into Executive Session at 6:22 p.m.

Iris motioned to close Executive Session, NBC seconded, all were in favor and the board reopened the meeting to the public at 6:55 p.m.

The meeting was opened again for public comment. Ann Taylor complemented the library on its programs and outreach. She also stated that construction bond grants were very difficult to win and wished the library well in its efforts.

The meeting was then closed to public comment.

**The next meeting** will be February 26, 2020

NBC motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ed seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

January Adams  
Director of Library Services