

Minutes

of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the
Bridgeport Public Library and Reading Room
held at 5:30 pm. at Burroughs-Saden Library
925 Broad Street at 5:30 pm on
December 12, 2017

Present: Directors O'Donnell, Holden, Errichetti (left 6:25pm), Greenberg, Baraka, Brown (arrived 5:55 pm), Osborne-Gant, Cunningham, Acting City Librarian Baldino, Assistant City Librarian Soltis

Mr. Anthony Stewart and Andre King of Ashlar Construction Co., Thomas Coble, Rev. Kenneth Moales

The meeting was called to order by President O'Donnell at 5:45 pm.. The agenda was suspended at the beginning of the meeting to allow Mr. Stewart to present an overview of the timeline for the construction of the new "Newfield Library". He distributed documents which outlined both a ten month construction timeline and an estimated budget breakdown for the Directors to review.

1. Review/Action re: termination of proposed lease of 1277 Stratford Avenue and of status of proposed safety improvements to current Newfield Branch.

Director Holden presented a letter from Rev. Moales outlining the terms of an eighteen-month lease on the property at 1277 Stratford Ave for the temporary relocation of the Newfield Library during construction. Rev Moales later attended the meeting and clarified for the Board of Directors the problems with relocation and agreed to adjust specific terms in the lease agreement (i.e. length). Action was deferred until more information can be obtained.

2. Review /Action on other building renovation/construction issues

Mr. Coble of the City of Bridgeport Construction Department described the construction process for both the new Newfield Library and the Civic block. He described the hazards of construction traffic and debris. The Board of Directors discussed the options and reaffirmed their intention to continue service to the community during the construction period. No Action was taken

3. Review/Action re retention of consultant to assist in search for City Librarian.

Personnel Committee Chairman Greenberg informed the Board of Directors that a Skype interview with a consulting firm would be conducted at 1:15 pm on

Wednesday, December 13th in the Boardroom at Burroughs-Saden. He invited all Directors to attend.

4. Acceptance of resignation of Director Rosalina Roman Christy

President O'Donnell expressed the opinion of the entire Board of Directors when he said "It is with a great deal reluctance and overwhelming gratitude for her service on behalf of the Bridgeport Public Library, its Board of Directors and the entire Bridgeport community that we accept the resignation of Director Rosalina Roman Christy. Director Christy's professionalism, collegiality and fierce determination to extend library access for all Bridgeport's citizens is a great loss, but we take solace in the fact that her involvement will continue as the Library's liaison to the City Council." The **MOTION** to accept the resignation of Director Roman-Christy was made by seconded by Director Greenberg and unanimously approved.

5. Review/Action reprocess for publicity and interviewing of potential candidates for vacant Director position.

Director Baraka, chairwoman of Nominations Committee, outlined for the Board the process of filling a vacancy. An advertisement will be placed in the newspaper and on the BPL website. Applications will be accepted until December 30. The Nominations Committee will meet at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, January 20, 2018 to review applications and schedule interviews. Interviews will be conducted during the second week in January, starting on January 16. Hopefully the vacancy will be filled at the monthly meeting in January.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne Cunningham
Ass't Secretary