

**SPECIAL MEETING
LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.
Newfield Branch Library 1277 Stratford Ave, Bridgeport, CT**

MINUTES

Present: Directors O'Donnell, Errichetti, Baraka, Holden, Torres, Greenberg, Osborne-Gant and Cunningham Absent: Director Brown

The meeting was called to order by Director Baraka at 5:31 PM. The meeting began with comments from the public. The sentiment expressed by those who commented are similar – that Library service in the East End was of great importance to the community, especially the children. Elected officials and community leaders would have appreciated more of a heads up about the closure but understood the Board's concerns about ongoing repairs needed for the facility despite a review of the building by Public Facility representatives prior to our decision to move. However, it was acknowledged that unexpected changes in conditions can occur despite due diligence.

Director Errichetti presented financial information about the move and the related occupancy costs. He indicated that the fit out cost approximately \$29,000 and through October 2018 we have paid rent and/or repair costs approximately equal to the rent due (May 2018 occupancy to October 2018)(6 months) or \$21,000 – paid as cash for two months (\$7,000) and as building repairs for four months rent (\$14,000).

President O'Donnell informed the Community that Interim City Librarian Braithwaite would be revising an action plan that had been in process to provide library services during the period of closure pending the opening of the new building that is now anticipated for March, 2019

A motion was made to ratify and confirm the earlier motion made at the October 19, 2018 to close the branch as of November 1, 2018 by Director Baraka, 2nd by Judge Holden. Director Errichetti moved to amend the Motion to change the closing date to November 9, 2018 to allow more time to notify the community about Interim City Librarian's action plan and use the space to meet with the community. The Motion to Amend was seconded by Director Greenberg and accepted by Directors Baraka and Holden as movers of the main motion. The amendment was adopted unanimously. The Motion, as amended, to close the Newfield temporary branch as of November 9, 2018, made by Director Baraka, seconded by Director Holden was adopted unanimously as follows:

MOTION To close current temporary location at 1277 Stratford Avenue as of November 9, 2018 due to persistent leaks, health issues, ongoing cost of repairs and need to protect, preserve and reallocate library fixtures and equipment, and work with the East End Community to provide library service through the use of pop-ups,

bookmobile, area schools and other locations and facilities until new construction is complete.

MOTION to adjourn made by Director Errichetti, seconded by Director Holden was adopted unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.