New Orleans Public Library
Regular Board Meeting
Main Library Board Room
Tuesday, November 12, 2019
4:37 p.m.
MINUTES

AGENDA

I. Call to Order — Board Chair Phala Kimbrough Mire (4:37 p.m.)

II. Roll Call — Public Services Administrative Assistant Sheila Prevost (4:38 p.m.)
   - Phala Kimbrough Mire, Board Chair — Present
   - Vonda Flentroy-Rice, Vice-Chair — Not Present
   - Laurance Eustis III, Secretary — Present
   - James K. Chassee, Treasurer — Present
   - Bernard Charbonnet — Not present
   - Raquel Dufauchard Baptiste — Not Present
   - Mary Moran — Present
   - Andrea Neighbours — Present
   - William A. Settoon — Present

   A quorum was present.
   Staff Present—Jessica Styons, Tammy Hanson, Sheila Prevost, John Marc Sharpe, Ross Matthews, Kate Martin, Michel Thompson, Laura Bevins, Jan Legros

III. Public Comments — (Phala Kimbrough Mire, 4:39 p.m.)
   - The Board Chair Phala Kimbrough Mire requested any comments from the public.
   - Dixon Stetler, Executive Director of the Friends of the New Orleans Public Library, reported on the excellent turnout at the latest FNOPL fundraiser held at the Main library the previous weekend. She also raised concerns over what is perceived as a lack of financial support and attendance at fundraisers by members of the Board of Directors. Ms. Stetler feels that there are missed opportunities for the FNOPL Board and NOPL Board of Directors to meet to discuss the upcoming millage campaign. The NOPL will not attend any future board meetings and would like the Foundation to fully fund the millage campaign.

IV. Action Item: Approval of Consent Agenda — (Phala Kimbrough Mire, 4:44 p.m.)
   - Consent Agenda — Andrea Neighbours proposed amending the September 10th meeting minutes to add that the Executive Board agreed to ask the City Attorney for his opinion in reference to the NOPLF Articles of Incorporation. Motion to approve the amended consent agenda was made by Mary Moran and seconded by James Chassee. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

V. Information Items
   - The November Executive Committee meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum
   - 2020 Holiday Closures (Jessica Styons, 4:50 p.m.)
- There are currently 13 approved annual holidays granted by the Civil Service Commission with the exception of Easter Sunday. Since Good Friday is considered one of the 13 holidays, regional branches that close for Easter are able to work it into staff schedules.

- Executive Search Committee Report (Phala Kimbrough Mire 4:55 p.m.)
  - The Executive Director hiring committee met extensively and worked with an independent consultant hiring firm. After vetting resumes and interviewing final candidates, the board’s final determination was unanimous and negotiations have been entered with Dr. Gabriel Morley. Dr. Morley is originally from Louisiana and is familiar with city and state regulations. A press release announcing his appointment is being prepared.

VI. Discussion Items
- NORD Commission update was tabled
- Foundation update (Phala Kimbrough Mire, NOPLF Chair Barbara Walters, 5:05 p.m.)
  - After consulting with the City Attorney’s Office, it has been determined there are 2 sets of Articles of Inc on file at the Secretary of State’s office: 1. The Original 1990-91 Articles and 2. The January 10, 2014 Amended and Restated Articles. However, the validity of the 2014 Amended and Restated Articles is in question due to procedures used in the Amending process. The Chairs of both NOPL and NOPLF will continue to consult with the City Attorney, to ensure that the original intent is followed. Phala will draft a letter to the City Attorney by November 22nd to request his assistance in how best to proceed.
  - Four new members have joined the NOPLF in June 2019: Sally Lindsey, Kate Williams, Meg Norton (only three names were mentioned in the audio file). Investment balance is $1.62 million. Account balance $64,000. Accounts Receivables $289,800; Revenue as of October 31, 2019 $8,349; Return on investment fund $209,508.22; Current expenses for NOPL $31,858 (YTD paid to accounting firm to manage books). Expenses paid to library $141,623.95 (contract to secure executive director search etc). Net income is $45,000
- Millage (Jessica Styons, 5:25 p.m.)
  - Library staff met with John Chrastka in September and he pointed out what staff should be thinking about and working on concerning the upcoming millage campaign. Mr. Chrastka suggested additional polling due to the property assessment issues throughout the city. Jessica confirmed through the Legal office that library can pay for polling as long as we are not trying to influence the voting and the questions do not promote a particular position. The legal department is willing to review the questions to ensure we are in compliance. Polling costs are anticipated at approximately $15,000 and can be taken from the library's operating budget.
  - Staff met to discuss what outreach was effective and it was determined that two staff from each area will be responsible for millage outreach and Mr. Chrastka would work directly with them. Mr. Chrastka is set to meet with staff in December on All Staff Day.
VII. Action Item: Vote to Approve Changes to Library Hours of Operation once Central City Library Re-opens and add Hours of Operation for Nora Navra Library — (Jessica Styons, 5:40 p.m.)
   • James Chassee moved to approve and William Settoon seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote

VIII. Action Item: Vote to Approve Address Change for Central City Library in Sex Offender Policy — (Jessica Styons, 5:42 p.m.)
   • James Chassee moved to approve and Andrea Neighbors seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote

IX. Adjournment — The Board Chair Phala Kimbrough Mire requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. That motion was made by William Settoon and seconded by James Chassee. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote. The November 12, 2019 meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

APPROVED: ________________________________________
Secretary

DATE: Feb 11, 2020