



**New Orleans Public Library**  
Executive Committee Meeting  
ZOOM Teleconference  
Tuesday, May 4, 2021  
4:30 p.m.

**NOTE REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The legal purpose of open meetings is to allow individuals to observe and participate in the deliberations of public bodies. Meetings of public bodies must be open to the public unless closed pursuant to a statutory exception, such as set forth in R.S. 42:16 – 42:18, which authorizes closed executive sessions. Public bodies must provide an opportunity for public comment prior to action on the agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. The governing body may adopt reasonable rules and restrictions regarding the comment period. R.S. 42:14, requires each public body, except school boards, conducting a meeting that is subject to the notice requirement of R.S. 42:19(A), to allow a public comment period prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken.

**\*PUBLIC COMMENT IS LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES PER INDIVIDUAL\***

**NOTICE OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING:**

This meeting is being conducted via teleconference per Executive Order 59-JBE-2020 Section 2.C, which states: “All state agencies, boards and commissions, and local political subdivisions of the state shall continue to provide for attendance at essential governmental meetings via teleconference or video conference and such attendance shall be allowed during the pendency of this emergency. All efforts shall be made to provide for observation and input by members of the public. Before any meeting conducted pursuant to this section, the state agency, boards and commission, or local political subdivision of the state shall first provide a written certification that it will otherwise be unable to operate due to quorum requirements. Such certification shall be posted at the same time and in the same manner as the agenda for the meeting. Nothing in this order shall be interpreted to waive any notice requirements.”

**MINUTES**

- I. **Call to Order**
  - A. Committee Chair, Phala Kimbrough-Mire called the May 4<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.
  
- II. **Roll Call — (4:40 p.m.)**
  - A. Committee Members Present: Phala Kimbrough-Mire, Vonda Flentroy-Rice, Andrea Neighbours
  - B. Staff Present: Dr. Gabriel Morley, Michel Thompson, Tammy Hanson
  
- III. **Public Comments — (4:41 p.m.)**
  - A. There were no public comments

- IV. **Executive Director Update – (4:46 p.m.)**
- A. As part of the phased opening, the library will open to 100 percent capacity on May 17<sup>th</sup>. This will give staff more opportunity to finish their vaccinations. We will no longer be quarantining materials. Summer are not anticipating face-to-face programming other than outside activities. The summer schedule is complete and will be posted soon.
  - B. The City is initiating safe internet exchange zones where citizens have a secure space to conduct safe transitioning of online purchases. These well-lit spaces will have designated parking spots, security cameras, call boxes, and signage.
  - C. Enterprise zones at several branches are currently being used the Office of Business and External Services to expand city services and for Neighborhood Engagement meetings. The District Attorney’s office would like to begin using these spaces for the diversion programs. The MOU is being finalized and the program may start in June.
  - D. Ms. Neighbours asked if partnerships would begin at New Orleans East and the amount of space needed. Dr. Morley confirmed that the pilot will begin at ENO and each enterprise zone will have different capacities. The groups using the spaces bring their own equipment so changing the dynamics of the room will be easy.
- V. **Strategic Planning Update (4:54 p.m.)**
- A. A draft of the Strategic Plan has been sent out to the board members for review and responses are due by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The group met with Mayor Cantrell who is pleased with the direction it is taking.
  - B. Ms. Kimbrough-Mire added that there were questions during the meeting with the Mayor on whether a work plan is being developed to synchronize with the strategic plan. Staff will need to develop 10-year operation plans that support the goals of the strategic plan.
  - C. Dr. Morley asked if Ms. Thomas was planning on presenting at the board meeting. Ms. Kimbrough-Mire stated that Ms. Thomas is planning on doing a presentation.
- VI. **Millage Campaign – (4:57 p.m.)**
- A. At the last meeting, Mr. Chrastka mentioned he had a plan on meeting with our stakeholders. Next week’s meeting would be a good opportunity for him to update board members to finalize our strategy for the millage. We need to have a vote to confirm which date we will be on the ballot.
- VII. **Approval of Land-Lease Letter – (4:58 p.m.)**
- A. The city realtor received a new contract from the hotel owner leasing our land for a longer period at a higher lease rate. The board needs to vote to approve the new lease terms.
- VIII. **Adjournment**
- A. The May 4, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.