



**New Orleans Public Library**  
Executive Committee Meeting  
ZOOM Teleconference  
Tuesday, September 1, 2020  
4:30 PM  
MINUTES

**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.

**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 — (Phala Kimbrough Mire)**

A. Board Chair, Phala Kimbrough Mire called meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

**Present:** Phala Kimbrough Mire, Vonda Flentroy Rice, Andrea Neighbours, James Chassee, Executive Director Dr. Gabriel Morley, Executive Assistant Tammy Hanson

**II. Meetings for 2021 — 4:36 p.m.**

A. The committee reviewed the 2021 meeting schedule and eliminated the February date. There was a brief discussion on whether there is a January board meeting to wait for budgetary items. It was determined that if need be, a special meeting can

be held in February as well. Secretary Neighbours asked if the board would like to revisit meeting more often than every other month.

**III. Executive Director Report— 4:42 p.m.**

- A. Contactless services will continue as the city has not indicated they will move on to phase 3 of the reopening plan. The library is making adjustments to accommodate the over 9,000 evacuees to allow for internet access.
- B. The learning hubs were not popular so were phased out.
- C. We are working with the city on a workforce development plan where citizens could go to a library branch during off hours to access city services. Keller and ENO are the focus branches for this endeavor. At ENO the enterprise zone will be built out with furniture and laptops. Algiers branch will come later on.
- D. Ms. Neighbours inquired whether we have an outreach van that can accommodate the hurricane evacuees. Dr. Morley responded that the FEMA organization has largely covered this. We will get more information in the coming weeks.

**IV. Review of Regular Board Meeting Agenda— 4:57 p.m.**

- A. Items were reviewed and Foundation update, Strategic planning update, and a report from the city CAO and Emily Wolf were added to information and discussion items on the Board agenda.
- B. Ms. Neighbours added that she would like all board members to get more information on open meetings laws. Ms. Kimbrough Mire will discuss this topic during the January meeting.

**V. Adjournment – (Phala Kimbrough Mire)**

- A. Chair Kimbrough Mire adjourned the September 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee meeting at 5:11 p.m.