

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Meeting of the Trustees Governance and Development Committee

Monday, September 18, 2017

Kirstein Business Center Exchange, Central Library

700 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

MINUTES

A meeting of the Boston Public Library Trustees Governance and Development Committee (“Committee”) was held on Monday, September 18, 2017 at Boston Public Library (“BPL”), Central Library in Copley Square.

Present at the meeting were Committee Chair John Hailer and Committee members: Representative Byron Rushing, Cheryl Cronin, Paul LaCamera and President, David Leonard. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Robert Gallery also attended. Committee member Ben Bradlee, Jr. was not present.

Also attended: Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel Caroline Driscoll, Ellen Donaghey, Chief Financial Officer and Pamela Carver, Clerk of the Board and members of the public.

Committee Chair John Hailer called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. and addressed the Review and Approval of Minutes of the July 28, 2017 Committee meeting. With no comments or edits suggested, upon motion made and duly seconded, the minutes were approved.

Next, President David Leonard gave an update on H.3862, the bill pertaining to the expansion of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Leonard explained that the City Council voted to approve it, the Mayor signed it and it proceeded to the General Court of the State. Mr. Leonard explained that he testified on September 12, 2017 at the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government Hearings at the State House. The House of Representatives voted to move the bill forward for an administrative vote, then it will proceed to the Senate where Senator Rush has agreed to help assist.

Mr. Leonard explained the expansion of the board is mainly to fill the philanthropic capacity of the board. He asked for the committee to begin considering names of candidates in the broader community and to think ahead as this process is moving forward quicker than they originally thought.

The Committee discussed the importance of balancing the board with representatives from the community, philanthropy and multi-generational impact leaders. Mr. Leonard mentioned the potential of adding a Presidential Advisory Group in addition to the board expansion as well. Ms. Cronin added that she recently reshaped the board at the Boston Public Market and was happy to share some models she found on how to build a board for the future.

Mr. Leonard promised to keep the Committee and Board apprised as the expansion bill moves forward. Representative Rushing suggested they develop any internal documents on desired board descriptions.

Mr. Leonard continued with the agenda, stating that having consultants on board will help to shape the board’s structure, the structure of the various committees, and the interest/advisory groups.

Mr. Leonard explained that at the last meeting they discussed formally meeting with the Boston Foundation. He told them that both he and Mr. Gallery met with The Boston Foundation and they proposed two items: 1) to receive a formal Capacity Grant request and 2) the hosting of an event with a broader group of philanthropic leaders. The Boston Foundation has offered to do this in part as a belated welcome for and celebration of the 1st year of Mr. Leonard’s tenure as President. The purpose will be to

bring community leaders together and raise the BPL's profile in the cultural community and fundraising community. The date was still to be determined.

Mr. Leonard stated, they are moving forward on a new position, Director of Strategic Partnerships. This position would be the main contact to work with the major philanthropic affiliates, and external funders, and in turn keeping them and in turn, the BPL informed.

The Committee discussed the hiring of this position relative to a Director of Development position, which would be called for in the new philanthropic implementation plan

Moving on to the next matter on the agenda, Mr. Hailer asked if anyone had any new business. Mr. Hailer addressed Mr. Leonard and Mr. Gallery and asked if they had any business updates to report. Mr. Gallery explained that the summer schedule had slowed the pace a bit but they are hopeful to move forward quicker in the fall months.

Mr. Hailer asked for Public Comment. David Vieira, member of the Citywide Friends Group, had some suggestions to pass on to the board for consideration. He asked that all meetings of the Trustees and the various committees and subcommittees of the board should be posted on the BPL's homepage in compliance with the Commonwealth's Open Meeting Law and for ease of finding the information. There should be recommended attendance guidelines issued and enforced for the Board of Trustees and all committees. An agenda item for public comment should be available at all meetings and be included in the meeting minutes. If any matter comes before the board or a committee that might involve a possible conflict of interest, the board member or committee member must submit an advisory request to the state Ethics Commission to determine if a conflict of interest might be involved. The Board of Trustees should appoint a parliamentarian to attend all meetings, in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. The parliamentarian should also ensure that meetings are held in compliance with the Commonwealth's Open Meeting law. He expressed the Trustees should have a representative from the Friends Group as a possible new board member.

At the conclusion of Public Comment, Mr. Hailer and Attorney Caroline Driscoll explained that the Committee would move to adjourn to Executive Session for purposes of discussing fundraising guidelines and ethics guidance with potential litigation as a result. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m. and moved to Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela R. Carver, Clerk of the Board