

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Meeting of the Trustees Governance and Development Committee Friday, September 14, 2018 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 Friday, September 14, 2018 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: Caroline Driscoll, Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel, 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 confirmed there was a quorum. He noted that at the conclusion of the public meeting they will adjourn and enter into an Executive Session to discuss potential candidates for appointment to the BPL Board of Trustees and permitted under Exemption 8 of Open Meeting Law. He noted they will not be reconvening in an open meeting at its conclusion. He addressed the review and approval of the Minutes of the April 12, 2018 committee meeting. With no comments or edits suggested, upon a motion made and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of April 12, 2018 were approved.

Next, President David Leonard gave an update on the Philanthropic Strategy. He explained they are moving forward toward the launch of the Boston Public Library Fund with the consent of the remaining members of the BPL Foundation. Funding has been secured to support the search for the Executive Director of this new entity and the process is underway. Under the leadership of Bob Gallery, a small Steering Committee of interested individuals from the broader philanthropic community has been formed which is led by Michael Keating. One of their tasks is to find new board members for the BPL Fund which will be the successor for the existing Foundation under the working title “Boston Public Library Fund”.

With respect to the Affiliates, there were three updates. Leventhal Map Center’s Board is in strong positive dialogue with the BPL in thinking of the new strategy as a collaborative effort. One project within this context will be doing a joint gala next summer. Conversations have been ongoing with the Associates. Currently, they are putting a strong premium on their identity as an independent organization. We are continuing to work through what that would mean with this new strategy. Mr. Leonard has had informal conversations with the City-Wide Friends but planned to bring President Julie Streeter up to speed in the coming weeks that will provide some guidance for the individual friends groups throughout the system.

Mr. Leonard moved the discussion to the Special Collections Committee. He noted that it is one of the standing committees and that at the prior meeting began the discussion to reshape the current structure. Mr. Leonard noted there was only one trustee on the committee, Representative Byron Rushing. Ben Bradlee had volunteered to serve as a member. Mr. Leonard distributed a brief draft description of the committee. He noted that several current members have had difficulties attending committee meetings. He explained the intent was to ask them to step down formally. Mr. Leonard asked for Head of Rare

Books, Beth Prindle, to join them and to answer any questions. With respect to the forward looking strategy, the staff believes that we would benefit from deep expertise in a mixture of subject areas, the media, and industry experts that support the work of the collections team as we move through a process that brings greater intellectual control to the collections. It will allow the BPL to drive towards greater accessibility through digitization, educational programming, and exhibitions. He noted the main purpose of this committee is to assist the Trustees on policies in regards to the collections and to advise the staff at a higher level thinking on best practices of industry standards with regards to all these subjects. Mr. Leonard explained having a good balance of all areas would best serve the purpose of the board. There was some discussion among the members that this committee serves in an advisory position and not directive. Ms. Prindle added that this committee makes specific recommendations to the Board of Trustees around loans, so will be looking for people who have input and expertise in helping the Library make decisions on the loan process as well as acquisitions. She noted they will be looking for people who can help inform those significant decisions. She briefly explained the current composition of the committee members. Mr. Leonard added they are hoping to fill in the missing areas of representation to better serve the goals of the Library moving forward. The committee had some discussion in regards to the importance of balancing the representation on the committee at this time. They talked about the importance of the BPL to be more collaborative with some of our cultural partners. They also discussed the process for new appointments to the committee.

Moving on to the next matter on the agenda, Mr. Hailer asked if there was any new business for which there was none.

Mr. Hailer asked for Public Comment. David Vieira, member of the Citywide Friends Group, stated he had a question and a comment. He noted that the subcommittee for Capital Project had been dormant for several years. He wondered why it was not active, especially with the amount of projects and renovations. Mr. Leonard noted that the topics related to Capital Projects have been taken up by the Board of Trustees as discussed at former meeting. Moving forward, they want to keep the focus on the four active committees and agreed that all other legacy committees had run their course and were no longer needed.

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 potential new trustees. The Clerk took roll call and the members voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 a.m. and moved to Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pamela R. Carver". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pamela R. Carver, Clerk of the Board