

# TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee

June 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Held virtually via Zoom

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee was held on June 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Present at the meeting were: Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee Chair and Trustee Evelyn Arana-Ortiz, Committee Members: Trustee Rep. Chynah Tyler, Che Madyun, Friend of the Roxbury Branch Library, Priscilla Foley, Director of Neighborhood Services/Branches, Elizabeth T. Nagarajah and Jacqueline Johnson of the Roxbury Friends. Also present: Candelaria Silva-Collins, Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Project Manager, Diana Preusser, Assistant Neighborhood Services Manager, and Pamela Carver, Clerk of the Board. Committee member Allen Knight was not present.

The Clerk noted the meeting was being recorded. Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee (“Committee”) Chair Evelyn Arana- Ortiz presided and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. She read the opening statement. The Clerk took roll call and determined there was a quorum.

First item on agenda was approval of meeting minutes from February 11, 2022 which were approved via a roll call vote.

Ms. Arana-Ortiz introduced new committee members, Elizabeth T. Nagarajah and Jacqueline Johnson of the Roxbury Friends. Ms. Arana-Ortiz also thanked Sarah-Anne Shaw for her long- term commitment and service to the FATC. Allen Knight was chosen by President Leonard as 2<sup>nd</sup> BPL representative on the Committee. Ms. Arana-Ortiz gave a brief background on the purpose of the Committee to provide supplemental literary instructive purposes at its Roxbury Branch Library.

Next, Ms. Arana-Ortiz reviewed the FY23 budget distribution of \$112,007.23 with a balance from FY22. Balances would not be noted until the end of the Fiscal year.

Ms. Priscilla Foley gave general BPL updates. She noted that the BPL was open on Saturdays, and most locations were open 9-2pm with exception of Chinatown. The Roxbury branch had been bustling and the that the start of the King Boston “Embrace Festival” began that week.

Ms. Silva-Collins began review of the programs. She showed photos taken at the various programs offered and from the technical assistance session. She reviewed each of programs individually.

The Makanda Projects was well attended with waiting room for the 2<sup>nd</sup> show. Play Book Reading Club hosted Zenzile and Burgerz, and Iphigenia all were well attended.

The Coding Class lost steam and had low attendance, so it was suspended. Outreach was appropriate but was not received as expected.

The Genealogy Bootcamp was full and always well received. The MLK teach-in on the African American History was upcoming and hoped it would be popular.

*Pamela Carver, Clerk 7.25.22*

Movers and makers were a mix of learning shapes and various crafts and creative crafts.

Piano classes, convened in May 2022 (noting that the main piano needs to be tuned). Keyboard stands are needed to give correct heights for the students.

Mindfulness and Meditation happened in the fall, but Ms. Silva-Collins needed reports from the instructor. The Collage Workshops in April and May had no attendees.

CORI sealing clinics were coming up and she was already receiving great feedback before it started. The Juneteenth teach-in was also coming up.

They were hopeful to host the “Your Next Skills” for (youth from DYS) with Joel Mackall in July, if not would have to cancel it.

Ms. Silva- Collins showed a screenshot of the attendance of each of the programs and was waiting for final reports.

She presented the proposed timeline for FY23 RFPs:

- Issue RFP via ads on June 15
- Tech Assistance on June 25
- Notice of Intent on July 1
- Final proposal deadline on July 20
- Meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>
- Grant notification on 8/22
- Orientation on 9/12
- Contracts being on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Rep. Tyler thanked Ms. Silva-Collins for checking in on the applicants and getting great guidance. Ms. Silva-Collins noted she would love to add Instagram followers to their outreach platforms.

Ms. Arana-Ortiz asked if Rep. Tyler’s mailing list could be utilized and suggested adding ads in the Dorchester Reporter.

Mr. Silva-Collins reviewed the three different grant application software for applicants to apply through. They charge annual subscription fees. They vary \$1,390-7k per year and she suggested switching applicants use this type of software moving forward. The committee was directed to check in with IT department for support and direction.

Ms. Arana-Ortiz asked for New Business. Ms. Silva-Collins asked for COVID protocol for attendees of the programs and BPL policy on how to handle/address? Ms. Foley noted her request and would send her guidelines. Also, Ms. Silva-Collins invited committee members to attend the programs.

Ms. Arana Ortiz asked for public comment for which there was none. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela R. Carver