

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON
Annual Meeting of the Trustees as a Corporation (Second Meeting)

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 9:58 am
Central Library, 700 Boylston Street, Boston MA 02116, Rabb Hall

MINUTES

The annual meeting of the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston (“BPL”) as a Corporation was held on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 9:58 a.m. at the Central Library’s Rabb Hall.

Present at the meeting were Chair Priscilla H. Douglas Trustees, Vice Chair Evelyn Arana Ortiz, and Trustees: Jabari Asim, Navjeet Bal, Joe Berman, Ben Bradlee, Jr., Cheryl Cronin, John Hailer, Jose Masso III, and Christian Westra. Linda Dorcena Forry, Jeff Hawkins, Senator Mike Rush, Rep. Chynah Tyler and Lynn Perry Wooten were absent. Also present: Boston Public Library President David Leonard, Clerk of the Board Pamela Carver, Boston Public Library staff, and members of the public.

The Clerk noted there was a quorum present from the first meeting. Chair, Priscilla H. Douglas presided and called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m. and addressed the agenda’s Call to Order of the Governance and Development Committee.

John Hailer, Committee Chair of the Trustees Governance and Development Committee, presented the slate of officers for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024: Priscilla H. Douglas for Chair, Evelyn Arana Ortiz for Vice Chair, and Pamela Carver for Clerk of the Board. Each will serve a one-year term from May 2023-May 2024. With no other nominations, a motion was duly made, seconded, and **voted unanimously to approve.**

VOTED: that, the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston approve the recommendation of the Trustees Governance and Development Committee for the Slate of Officers of the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston and the Clerk of the Board for the period May 2023 through May 2024 as presented.”

Mr. Leonard noted that three trustees terms have expired as of May 1, 2023 (Jabari Asim, Ben Bradlee Jr, and Linda Dorcena Forry) They have graciously agreed to stay on a s active holdovers per the BPL Board of Trustees by-laws allow. Mayor Wu has not indicated whether she will be reappointing or nominating new trustees.

Ms. Priscilla Douglas addressed the agenda’s Call to Order and described the votes in this meeting as “enabling” votes. Ms. Douglas reviewed the votes and asked if any members of the Board of Trustees wished to speak to, or had questions concerning, any of the enabling votes before the Board. There were no comments made or questions asked. Thus, upon motion duly made and seconded, and,

VOTED: “that, the President, Director of Library Services, Director of Operations, Chief Financial Officer, Chief of Staff, or the Clerk of the Corporation be, and hereby are, authorized to sign on behalf of the Corporation, bills, special drafts, and payrolls of the Library.”

VOTED: “that, the President, Director of Library Services, Director of Operations, Chief Financial Officer, Chief of Staff, Chief of Collection Management (for contracts related to Collections only), or the Clerk of the Corporation be, and hereby are, authorized to sign any and all contracts, except as otherwise authorized, voted to be made by the Board in the name and on behalf of the Corporation and any and all communications in connection with the award of contracts so voted or recommended to be so voted and to authorize payments under contracts so voted.”

VOTED: “that, the President, Director of Library Services, Director of Operations, Chief Financial Officer, Chief of Staff, or the Clerk of the Corporation be, and hereby are, authorized to accept on behalf of the Trustees gifts, payments made in recognition for the special services rendered, and payments received for the publications and prints executed under library sponsorship and, in connection with the acceptance of the same, to endorse on behalf of the Trustees checks so received, said amounts to be reported to the Board at the September Meeting.”

VOTED: “that, until the next Annual Meeting, by delegation of the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the President, Director of Library Services, Director of Operations, Chief Financial Officer, Chief of Staff, or the Clerk of the Corporation, hereby are, authorized to accept on behalf of the Trustees gifts to be added to funds already established in the General Investment Account, the acceptance of said amounts to be reported to the Board at the meeting following any such acceptance.”

VOTED: “that, the President, or Chief Financial Officer, or Chief of Staff, be and hereby is, authorized and directed to distribute and pay to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston the income of the General Investment Account for the period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024; and further,

VOTED: that, the President, or Chief Financial Officer, or Chief of Staff, be and hereby is, authorized to cause to be paid to the Rector of Trinity Church for the period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 income on the Children's Fund now held in the custody of the Collector-Treasurer of the City of Boston pursuant to the provisions of the 11th Clause of the will of Josiah H. Benton, as required by the 19th Clause of said will; and further,

VOTED: that, the President, or Chief Financial Officer, or Chief of Staff, be and hereby is, authorize and directed to cause to be distributed and paid to the Rector of Trinity Church, to be held by said Rector pursuant to the provisions of the 12th Clause of the will of Josiah H. Benton, as defined by the Agreement of Compromise, dated January 15, 1935 and made in connection with the administration of the trust created by such Clause, four-tenths of the income of the Benton Book Fund for the period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, inclusive, now held in the custody of the Collector-Treasurer of the City of Boston, and to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston the remaining six-tenths of said income for said period to be applied to the purchases provided in said Agreement of Compromise.”

VOTED: “that, the President, Director of Library Services, Director of Operations, Chief Financial Officer, Chief of Staff, or the Clerk of the Corporation, until the next annual meeting, is authorized to spend for the purpose of buying library materials any authorized and proper purpose income from those Trust Funds held by the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, where no specific vote of the Trustees is required by the Trust instrument.”

Ms. Douglas asked if there was any new business. Ms. Arana Ortiz thanked Ms. Donaghey for her diligent service every day for the BPL. With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The Board cleared the room in order to meet in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Carver, Clerk of the Board