

MINUTES

Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – March 19, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. online.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Browne, President
Reid Day
Laura Dominik
Claudia Oñate Greim
Jonathan Kemper
Michelle Smirnova
Elizabeth Warwick
India Williams

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Susan Kenney

STAFF PRESENT: Debbie Siragusa, Interim Chief Executive
Teresa Bolton, Director of Central Library Operations
Melissa Carle, Director of Information Systems
Courtney Christensen, Philanthropy Department Administrator
and Project Specialist
Carrie Coogan, Deputy Director of Public Affairs and Community
Engagement
Crystal Faris, Deputy Director of Youth and Family Engagement
Angela Fencl, Director of Finance / Chief Financial Officer
Sharla Harris, Administrative Officer
Cindy Hohl, Director of Policy Analysis & Operation Support
Joel Jones, Deputy Director of Library Services
Mary Olive Joyce, Director of Community Engagement and
Outreach
Heather Pedersen, Executive Assistant / Manager of Executive
Services
Margaret Perkins-McGuinness, Deputy Director for Philanthropy
* Full list of staff in attendance available by request

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Hare, Bradbury Miller Associates
Mandy Simon, Bradbury Miller Associates

Browne called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Browne introduced Hare and Simon of Bradbury Miller Associates. Hare gave an update on the search process, including outlining what materials and information will be provided to

the Executive Director Search Committee after the position closes, and the process for selecting semifinalists and finalists during upcoming Search Committee meetings. He shared that they are utilizing over 50 library specific job posting sites and reaching out to nominees to encourage them to apply as part of their effort to have a diverse candidate pool.

Hare shared anticipated plans and logistics related to the in-person visits and interviews of finalist candidates for Board consideration. The Board asked questions and provided input on various aspects of the formal candidate interviews, Q&A sessions with staff, building tours, presentations, and community tours. Discussing building tours, Browne, Dominik, and Williams suggested Bluford, Plaza or Central as locations.

The Board provided input on the key attributes the new Executive Director should have, including:

- Experience with a larger metropolitan system
- Awareness of what is required for organizational health
- Understanding the roles of the library in community engagement and regional life
- Ability to listen and be responsive to the needs of staff and community

The Board identified several opportunities and challenges the new Executive Director can expect, including:

- Changing needs for services and how facilities are utilized
- Steady income from property taxes allows for innovation
- The need to navigate divided political environments
- Creating a shared vision of strategic goals across all stakeholders

Motion by Dominik to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024, Regular Board Meeting and the February 20, 2024, Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Meeting. Second by Smirnova. Approved unanimously.

(Note: As a matter of Board convention, the Chair votes only when his/her vote would affect the outcome of the vote. In all "recorded" votes, the vote of the Chair appears only when it has actually been cast and when it has had an effect on the disposition of the motion. Notations of "approved unanimously" mean all members, other than the Chair, voting affirmatively.)

Request by Dominik to consider the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Dominik to consider items 4.1 and 4.2 separately.

Discussing the financial reports (LBM 4682), Siragusa provided a brief overview of the budget. Revenue and expenditures are tracking close to expected levels, and we anticipate meeting the year-end budget.

Motion by Dominik to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Browne. Approved unanimously. The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Move approval of the recommendation of the Interim Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for February 2024: Payroll (02/08/24 net cash \$396,781 plus taxes \$162,243) and (02/22/24 net cash \$360,696 plus taxes \$123,788) total amount of \$1,043,508; General Expense Payments including Checks (#12958-13202), in the amount of \$1,181,038. (LBM 4681)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for February 2024. (LBM 4682)

Discussing the nonbinding tax levy (LBM 4683), Siragusa shared this is a non-reassessment year with no new assessed value numbers, so the calculations use the values from September of last year. The only expected increase will be the CPI percentage, which is at about 3½ %.

Kemper asked whether we expect Jackson County will provide the number from properties that are rolling into the tax rolls, particularly the Federal Reserve building. Siragusa noted her recollection that there was an adjustment several years ago to the Federal Reserve property and the Library did start receiving that property tax money. She will verify the information on the Federal Reserve and check back with the County on the overall number from properties rolling onto the tax rolls.

Motion by Dominik to approve the recommendation of the Nonbinding Projected Tax Levy for Tax Year 2024. Second by Oñate Greim. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4683)

Discussing the Director's Report (LBM 4684), Siragusa noted that the statistical report is now available.

Motion by Dominik to adjourn. Second by Smirnova. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Secretary

Date