



Library Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Via zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8056949401?pwd=cXRyUFJxTkJodzUvcGNVeWt2TGy0QT09>

MINUTES

Members Present: Adam Groves, Quyen Aoh, Kara Murphy, Mary Ann Tempestini, Mari Howells, Mohamed Almorsy, Annie Rosenthal

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Karen Pierce, John Euliano, Deana Cooper, Jessica Church, Patrick Miller, A. J. Rao, Correy Connelly, Andrew Miller, Jim Dible, Mary Rennie, Freda Tepfer, Anna McCartney, Issy Lawrie, Anna C, Paige, Catherine O’Neil, Art Leopold, Rock Copeland, Matt Martin, Andre Horton

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President at 12:02.

2. Approval of Minutes – October 19, 2023

Motion to approve by Mary, second by Kara. Minutes pass.

3. Preliminary Statement- Karen Pierce

Karen read a preliminary statement- attached at the end of the minutes.

Quyen reminded board that she is a Gannon employee and therefore recuses herself from discussions regarding the Gannon project.

4. Public Comment (Limit to 15 minutes)

Freda Tepfer- asked that board vote against Gannon project. Highlighted areas in bylaws regarding planning for Library. Asked board to intervene on public behalf and ask to have council review decision. Within the right of the library to make these decisions. Disagrees with Director.

Issy Lawrie- strong concern on lease agreement. Public was not included in decision. Closed door deal and the public were not consulted. Council did not hear the people. Would like Gannon and Library Admin. to say no to lease.

Jim Dible- introduced himself as newly appointed Board President of ERLF. Here to observe to learn how LAB functions. Informed LAB that the Foundation was informed they would lose pro bono space at library possibly by the end of December.

Anna McCartney- Concerned that LAB allowed Gannon project to occur. Missed beginning of meeting with director’s statement. Decision is wrong and library is owned by the people of the county. Petition signatures are being collected. Most people were not aware of the agreement.

Mary Rennie- objects to time limit of 15 minutes, 3 minutes each. All deserve to be heard. Very appreciative to individuals who serve on boards. Described role of boards and who they should serve versus who they do serve. Expressed disappointment and concern over lack of a public hearing. Gannon holds some responsibility on their lack of communication regarding the project until it was too late. Also, no impact study done prior to agreement

by either administration or library prior to agreement. Doubt many read lease agreement. Concerned there is no public access defined in lease. Gannon's mission is not the libraries mission.
Art Leopold- concerned project was not given public review. Concerned with parking at Blasco during Bayfront project. Library not a good location for project and disagrees with decision.
Paige- Echo previous comments concerning public input. Concerned that previous strategic planning for library included community input. This project was allotted no community input. Lease status? If signed, when? Clear up location and changes to library.
Rock Copeland- Echoes speakers concerns and comments. Concerned public resources and spaces being privatized.

5. Library Reports

- a. Staff Report- none
- b. Report of the Director- Karen Pierce

Responded to questions from public regarding changes at library-

Internet moved back upstairs. No reduction of space. Collaboratories will relocate to second floor. Foundation staff will relocate to a different space within the library. Currently, the new development director, Patrick Miller is temporarily housed in a second floor office which will become a collaboratory. A new location has not been identified at this time.

Parking Concern- Karen stated that parking concerns stem back to the early 2000s. This is an ongoing concern and not a new problem. . Hopefully, having additional partners will add more funding solutions. Other parking conversations taking place down on Bayfront based on infrastructure as well.

Report provided in agenda. Karen reviewed report with board.

Following review, Quyen had a question regarding PA Forward and paving the way for a display policy. Karen explained that she used PA Forward initiatives as framework to draft the policy. Policy was sent over to Solicitor for review. Solicitor wishes to add a couple things and add Council resolution.

Annie- would like board to see policy in case they wish to make changes. Please share what you have.

Adam- asked for clarification of policy committees. Karen informed board that there are different committees for different types of policies. Collection development policy versus Code of Conduct policy. Different people for different policies.

- c. Statistical and Other Reports- John

Statistics provided in agenda.

- d. Review of Financial Report- Deana

Financial report provided as attachment and reviewed. Anticipated budget is on target.

Review of District Consultant

Provided in agenda.

Next phase of receiving state aid is in process. All applications are completed and plans are submitted.

6. Board and Committee Reports

- a. Report of County Council Liaison- Councilman Horton

No report to give. Thank you for all your support and all you do.

- b. Report of ERLF- Patrick Miller

Not much to report. Gearing up for Giving Tuesday and year end annual appeals.

- c. Report of Friends of the Library

No report

7. Unfinished Business

a. Bylaw review-

Quyen and Kara have been working with Karen on a bylaw review. Addresses the responsibilities of Advisory Board were consistent within the advisory capacity of a board and do not go beyond what is included in the position description. Another area we wish to add involves the responsibilities the Library has to the board. Quyen recommended that the vote of bylaws be pushed to December. Annie made a motion to table bylaw discussion, Adam and Mohamed second. Motion passed unanimously.

b. 2024 Board Meeting dates and times-

All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month at noon via zoom with the exception of January 15 and February 19 since the library is closed. The January and February meetings will be held the fourth Monday of those months. Dates are listed in agenda.

Kara motioned to approve dates. Mohamed second. Motion passes.

8. New Business

a. Vote of Officers

Facilitation of nominated for Board Officers- Mary Ann Tempestini – nominees read back as follows:

- President-Quyen Aoh, votes 4 yes 1 no
- Vice President- Adam Groves 5 yes
- Secretary- Kara Murphy 5 yes

Mary Ann for any other nominations before proceeding. No other nominations.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Annie, second by Mary. 12:57p.

10. Appendix

a. Announcements – **Thursday, December 21, 2023 via zoom**