

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ATTENDANCE: Moina Noor, Chair; Alex Knopp, Laurel Peterson, Haroldo Williams Jannie Williams

ABSENT: Patsy Brescia, Thomas Cullen, Mary Mann

OTHERS: Sherelle Harris, Library Director; Marcus Eason, SoNo Branch Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Noor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

[00:15]

Ms. Noor called the roll. A quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

[00:25]

• Minutes from March 13, 2025 Meeting

The following correction was noted:

Page 2, under Main Library Renovation Update please change the following from:

Originally, there was \$500,000 in the budget and \$1.45 in the Economic Development account.

To:

Originally, there was \$500,000 in the Library budget and \$1.45 million in the Economic Development account.

**** MR. KNOPP MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 13, 2025 MEETING AS CORRECTED.**

**** MS. WILLIAMS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 13, 2025 MEETING AS CORRECTED PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR (KNOPP, NOOR AND MS. WILLIAMS) AND TWO(2) ABSTENTIONS (PETERSON AND MR. WILLIAMS).**

• Minutes from March 19, 2025 Special Meeting

**** MR. KNOPP MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING AS SUBMITTED.**

**** MS. NOOR SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR (KNOPP, NOOR AND MS. WILLIAMS) AND TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (PETERSON AND MR. WILLIAMS).**

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

[5:55]

There was no one present to comment at this time.

V. REPORTS

[6:00]

A. President

1. Charter revision update

Ms. Noor said that she had sent a letter to Mr. Fairbairn on March 24th and followed up on this in person at the April 1st Charter Revision meeting. After the meeting, Ms. Noor said that she sent Mr. Fairbairn a note to find out if there was any additional follow up for the process. The Charter Revision Commission will be meeting again on the 15th. She asked if there was anyone who could attend the April 15th meeting. Another possibility is to get a letter from the State Library Board. Mr. Daniels also replied with some suggested wording on two items.

2. National Library Week

April 6th-12th is National Library Week, which celebrates the role of libraries in providing free access to knowledge and literature. She acknowledged the Library Director and the dedicated staff for their hard work. The other Board members agreed.

B. Library Director

• Marcus Eason - South Norwalk Branch Manager

Ms. Harris introduced Mr. Eason and asked him to give the board an update. Mr. Eason greeted the Board and said that they recently had 35 children attend the program recently. Attendance is up. He thanked Ms. Harris for her guidance and mentioned that patrons like the renovations.

• Main Library building plan next steps per Norwalk Purchasing Department

Ms. Harris said that she had spoken to Ms. Conners in Purchasing. Ms. Harris displayed the Purchasing Guide on screen. Ms. Peterson noted that the information packet was 146 pages.

Ms. Harris mentioned that many of the documents had been previously sent, but they were now all in one place. Ms. Noor asked if anyone had reached out to the Bergers for additional information. Mr. Knopp replied that he had not.

• Raises for part-time staff update

Ms. Harris said that she had presented the request for the part time staff raises to the BET but said that it was not approved. She said the part time staff has not had a raise since 2012. Ms. Harris said that if all staff received raises to bring them to market rate that it would be about \$1 million dollars. She said she

wanted to see what she could do with the existing budget and that the Finance Director said they would make it a priority for the 2026-27 budget.

• **Main Library parking lots update**

Ms. Harris said that the crews are waiting for consistent weather that is 60 degrees or above. She displayed the directional signage on screen and said they should be receiving it soon. She said the hedges need to be trimmed at the 3 Belden Avenue location and the signage installed to prevent accidents because drivers go in and out of the lot the wrong way.

• **South Norwalk (SoNo) Library repaving and EV charging station update**

Ms. Harris said that the paving and the EV charging station is waiting for warmer weather. When they pave, they have the opportunity to make the lot ADA compliant. The first spot nearest the door would be ADA, and the second and third spots would share the EV charging station that would also be able to accommodate an ADA van. The funds have been allocated.

OLD BUSINESS

[39:00]

Ms. Noor said that she had wanted to schedule a walk-through, but wished to hold off until Ms. Brescia can join the group again.

Ms. Harris said the Board had tentatively approved the Confidentiality Policy, but they had not heard back from the Corporation Counsel at that time. Since then, Corporation Counsel has reviewed the policy.

**** MR. KNOPP MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY.**

**** MS. PETERSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

[32:50]

**** MS. NOOR MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MS. PETERSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Norwalk
Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
April 10, 2025