MINUTES
OCPL Board of Trustees’ Meeting
November 20 2019
Central Library, Board Room
4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING
V. Biesiada
T. Dodge
S. Edelstein
R. Engel
J. Hurst-Wahl
E. Kochian
R. Manning
B. Morgan-Baker
C. Ondrako
M. Tucci

ALSO PRESENT
D. Marmor
G. Cox
R. Battelle
M. Carter
K. Coffta
D. Dell
C. Diede
D. Drobnjak
C. Luddy
R. Maguire
A. Schiavulli
J. Brooks
A. Travis
M. Van Patten

WELCOME
Mr. Kochian called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA
Mr. Manning moved the consent agenda, which includes the minutes from the
October 16th and November 12, 2019 meetings.
Ms. Biesiada seconded, motion passed unanimously.
(Mr. Edelstein, Ms. Ondrako or Ms. Morgan-Baker were not present at the time
of the vote.)

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Ms. Marmor gave an update on the following topics:
NYLA: She gave an overview of the keynote address given by Astra Taylor and
mentioned how inspiring it was. Ms. Marmor also attended workshops on the
various types of employee’s leave, evaluating workplace culture and on trauma
and resilience.
Central’s Streetscape Improvement: Ms. Marmor shared some ideas that were
drawn up to improve the Central Library’s streetscape. There was discussion on
some of the ideas needing prior approval from the proper entities if chosen.
The Board would like to see all models and prices.
Bookmobile: Ms. Marmor reviewed the yearly cost information that was
provided to County Facilities and Ways and Means Committees. She noted the
various types of resources the library would like to see in the bookmobile and the
size that would be needed to accommodate them.
Personnel:
Mr. Kochian asked about where we are in the process for the Inventory Control Supervisor position. Ms. Marmor stated that a canvass list has been requested.
Ms. Marmor also mentioned we will be having a few upcoming vacancies in the New Year, due to retirements.

ACTION/DISCUSSION
Resolution: 19-34
Action Items:
Ms. Ondrako moved the following motion:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees accepts the grant funds of $8,000 from the M & T Charitable Foundation to support the 2020 Summer Learning Program.

Ms. Tucci seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution: 19-35
Mr. Dodge moved the following motion:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application submission to the City of Syracuse Department of Neighborhood and Business Development Block Grant (CDBG) for 2020-2021 for $24,908 for the Young Technology Leaders Workforce Development Program (LEAD Tech) at Mundy Branch Library.

Mr. Manning seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution: 19-36
Ms. Morgan-Baker moved the following motion:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for an additional amount of up to $35,000 totaling no more than $297,500 from the New York State $34 million Construction Grant program FY 2019-2022 for Baldwinsville Public Library to repair and repave the library’s parking lot; and, be it further

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees recommends the application for an additional amount of up to $150,000 totaling no more than $164,317 from the same New York State $34 million Construction Grant program FY 2019-2022 for Marcellus Free Library to add security cameras and wall fascia.

Ms. Biesiada seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution: 19-37
Ms. Biesiada moved the following motion:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of up to $3,500 to cover the costs of the Executive Director’s Search.

Ms. Morgan-Baker seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution: 19-38
Ms. Biesiada made the following motion:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Christian Zabriskie to the Executive Director’s position effective January 7, 2020.
Mr. Dodge seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Motion

Resolution: 19-39

Ms. Biesiada made the following motion:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves to remove Janet Park, former Executive Director effective immediately; add Christian Zabriskie effective January 7th, and retain Dawn Marmor, Administrator for Branch/Central Services; Mark Carter, Administrative Director; Edward Kochian, OCPL Board President/Member; and Christina Ondrako, OCPL Board Treasurer authorized to sign checks drawn on the Trustees accounts including, the transfer of funds to/from all Trustees accounts.

Ms. Hurt-Wahl seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items:

1) 3rd Quarter Forecast: Mr. Carter reviewed the 3rd quarter forecast handout.
2) Fines: Ms. Marmor updated the Board regarding the revenue the library receives in fines. There was a brief discussion on the various types of fine free libraries and how they handle getting an item returned in a timely manner for recirculation.

FOCL

Ms. Brooks thanked the Board for their sponsorship. She reported that the lecture series is up sixty subscribers from last year.
Author Events: FOCL tries to do an outreach event with each author, providing their schedules. Author Tommy Orange visited the Onondaga Nation School. He was very good with the students explaining his journey to writing which didn’t take place until his twenties.
She listed the next three lectures in the spring and she is looking for invitations for an outreach event for these authors.
Ms. Brooks reminded everyone that the city and county libraries are offered two FOCL comp tickets for the spring lecture of their choice to use as a raffle/fundraising for their library.

OCSLD

Ms. Travis mentioned she was the 2019 NYLA Conference chair and had the opportunity to meet Christian Zabriskie and welcome him to the OCPL system.
Baldwinsville: Barnes and Noble on Route 31 will be having a book fair to benefit the Baldwinsville Library.
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Mr. Kochian inquired if a decision has been made on which of the formulas the Committee reviewed would work best for the MOU. Ms. Van Patten mentioned they haven’t come up with a final decision yet.

COMMUNICATIONS/ COMMITTEE REPORTS

NYLA

Ms. Hurst-Wahl gave an overview of the NYLA Conference held last week in Saratoga Springs. There are over 7,000 members and the Library Trustees Association (LTA) is now part of NYLA.
NYLA 2021 will be held in Syracuse and will be a great opportunity for Board members to attend.
Ms. Hurst-Wahl’s comments on the sessions she attended can be found on her blog at Digitization101.com.

Government Relations

Mr. Dodge reviewed the past and future activities of the committee.
Upcoming Event: CLRC Legislative Breakfast on December 13th from 8:30-10:00 at the
Beauchamp Branch Library.

**Strategic Planning**

Ms. Hurst-Wahl stated Ms. Morgan-Baker is working on a survey.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Kochian reminded the Board he is still accepting 2020 officer nominations. He shared Ms. Park’s thank you note for her retirement reception. He mentioned he has reached out to Meg O’Connell from the Allyn Foundation and Kevin Morgan from ProLiteracy to each speak at a respective future board meeting.

Mr. Kochian also received a phone call related to the Boeheim Foundation who will be giving out early literacy grants.

Mr. Kochian read an excerpt from the book *Theodore Roosevelt for the Defense* by Dan Abrams that has a reference to Syracuse in it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Dodge moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Kochian adjourned the meeting at 5:17 p.m.

Gail M. Cox
Administrative Assistant