

YONKERS PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD MEETING
GRINTON I. WILL LIBRARY
DECEMBER 15, 2022

ATTENDANCE

TRUSTEES:	Nancy Maron Josephine Ilarraza Joseph Puglia Patricia Duggan
LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Jesse Montero
ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Shauna Porteus
BUSINESS MANAGER:	Vivian Presedo
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:	James Hackett
WLS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:	Trustee Puglia
UNION REPRESENTATIVE:	Brandon Neider
GUESTS:	Philip Chopak

The Board Meeting began at 7:01 pm.

Board President Maron opened the Meeting by announcing that Vice President Ilarraza's term is expiring at the end of the year and she will not seek reappointment. The Board applauded Trustee Ilarraza's service and wished her farewell.

MINUTES

On motion of Trustee Duggan, seconded by Trustee Ilarraza and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the Meeting of November 17, 2022.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Director Montero reported on winter programming, noting that Yonkers Public Library has hosted more events this season than in the previous two years. All libraries held a special "Winter Wonderland" themed event that featured music, arts and crafts and many special guests, including an appearance by Santa Claus. He added that many organizations also chose YPL as the location for many of their holiday events and programs and he was proud that YPL had the opportunity to host them.

Director Montero updated the Board on the continued changes to the layout and physical spaces in the buildings. He discussed the Teen Room at Riverfront Library and the ongoing shifting projects that moved many of the young adult stacks into empty spaces elsewhere in the

reference department. This allowed other patrons besides teens to more easily access those collections, freed up space in the Teen Room that will be filled with newer furniture and created better views of the Hudson River. He also presented photos of a new mural by street artist Dean Zeus Colman. The mural was the result of concepts drawn from teen input and was made possible by a grant from Legislator Jose Alvarado.

Director Montero reported that Riverfront Library hosted International Baccalaureate (IB) Day on December 7 for the first time in two years. Nearly 60 students from Yonkers Middle High School came to Riverfront for a daylong research instruction program and explored its extensive collections on African American history and slavery. The program is a result of a collaboration between YPL, Yonkers Public Schools and Sarah Lawrence College.

Assistant Director Porteus announced a new partnership with Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Riverfront will host three embedded first-year medical students beginning in January for the duration of their academic year as part of a service-learning course requirement. She noted that the curriculum is yet to be determined but she was hopeful they could provide assistance by making referrals, hosting workshops on parenting and early literacy and improve accessibility for disabled patrons.

UNION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Representative Neider reported that the administration's negotiator has been in contact with the Union regarding dates for contract negotiations. He also reported that the Union has discussed with various departments the contractual obligations regarding emergency closing lists.

WLS REPORT

NONE

PERSONNEL REPORT

On motion of Trustee Puglia, seconded by Trustee Ilarraza and unanimously carried, the Board ratified the following appointments:

Whelan, Aili, Temporary Librarian III, \$92,909.00/year, eff. 12/09/2022

Howell, Crystal, P/T Page, \$15.00/hour, eff. 11/25/2022

Acknowledged the following terminations:

McCrink, Diane, Permanent Librarian III, \$97,171.00/year, eff. 11/30/2022 (retirement)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fundraising & Development – Maron (chair), Jannetti

Foundation Update: President Maron reported that the Foundation had recently written a check for \$25,000 to support Yonkers Public Library but added that the annual appeal is still ongoing. She also announced that the next annual gala has been scheduled for Wednesday,

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May 10 at Riverfront Library. The Foundation will appoint a committee to determine the headliner and other special guests.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Trustee Puglia, seconded by Trustee Duggan and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of bills as listed on Schedule #846.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Director Montero presented a preliminary design of YPL's new logo and discussed the search for a vendor to design it as well as the new website. He noted that the logo was not final and not for public release yet but would be included in the new strategic plan. He added that work on the new website is ongoing and hoped it would be ready by the second quarter of 2023. The Board discussed the new logo at length.

President Maron also updated the Board on the progress of the five-year strategic plan. There were no major changes to the content of the plan since a draft was presented at the last meeting. President Maron asked the Board for a motion to support the plan. On motion of Trustee Puglia, seconded by Trustee Duggan and unanimously carried, the Board voiced its support for the new five-year strategic plan.

NEW BUSINESS

President Maron announced a Nominating Subcommittee to choose a slate of nominees for officer elections at the annual meeting next month and asked for volunteers. Trustee Puglia volunteered and was appointed. The Board also discussed the expiring terms of Trustees Ilarraza and Duggan and the resignation of Trustee Giuffrida.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Maron motioned the Board into Executive Session at 7:41 pm to discuss the job performance of an employee and asked Director Montero to join them. The Board exited Executive Session at 7:55 pm.

On motion of Trustee Ilarraza, seconded by Trustee Puglia and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE – Annual Meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 7:00pm at Will Library.

Jesse Montero
Library Director & Secretary