

YONKERS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD MEETING  
RIVERFRONT LIBRARY  
February 28, 2019

**ATTENDANCE**

TRUSTEES:	Anietra Guzmán-Santana Stephen Jannetti Derrick Touba Joseph Puglia Josephine Ilarraza John Saraceno
LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Edward Falcone
DEPUTY DIRECTOR:	Susan Thaler
BUSINESS MANAGER:	None
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:	James Hackett
WLS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:	Tr. Puglia
UNION REPRESENTATIVE:	None
GUEST PRESENTERS:	Wayne Francis (Lead Pastor, Authentic Church) John Bagwell (Pastor, Authentic Church) Rebecca Mazin (Consultant, Recruit Right)

The Board Meeting began at 7:09 p.m.

**MINUTES**

On motion of Tr. Jannetti, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the Annual Board Meeting of January 24, 2019.

**GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

Tr. Guzmán-Santana introduced Lead Pastor Wayne Francis and Pastor John Bagwell of Authentic Church and announced their proposal of renting the

Auditorium at the Grinton I. Will Branch. After a discussion with the Board that included questions about the Church's background, logistics and publicity, Pastors Francis and Bagwell thanked the Board for their time.

Tr. Guzmán-Santana introduced Rebecca Mazin, a human resources consultant with Recruit Right who has previously worked with the Library in updating its harassment policy and staff training. Ms. Mazin presented an audit of YPL HR practices. After a review of her presentation, a longer discussion began about hiring practices, civil service regulations and employee relations, as well as the overall value of human resources and the need for a dedicated professional in the Library. Director Falcone advised the Board that Ms. Mazin would again be presenting the Library's next harassment staff training on April 4 and Deputy Director Thaler invited them to attend.

## **MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Director Falcone updated the Board on the Will façade project. The terracotta panels are expected to arrive in mid-March, and progress should pick up shortly after. In the meantime, work continues on the railings, windows and vestibule.

Director Falcone was pleased to announce that the New York State Library System awarded the Yonkers Public Library additional funds from its library construction grant. Most of the funds will be available in the fall, the remainder upon completion of the project.

Director Falcone reported that Montefiore will renew in full its supportive services grant, which funds the case manager program. Director Falcone also announced that Montefiore nominated Community Relations Librarian Shauna Porteus for a Westchester County Public Health Honoree Award. The Board was very pleased with the success of the program and expressed their thanks to Shauna for leading it and their congratulations for the well-deserved honor.

Director Falcone informed the Board of another budget review meeting with the Finance Department. The meeting went well, and no further changes were made to the YPL budget. The Mayor's budget is due for release on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Director Falcone updated the Board on the training the staff has received in the new WLS Evergreen system and is hopeful the transition will be smooth as the system goes live on March 14.

Director Falcone informed the Board of a technology conference IT Manager Carlos Figueroa and Technology Instruction Coordinator Christine Bitetti attended in Orlando, Florida. Both were very excited to attend and returned with many new ideas and contacts.

### **UNION REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT** – None

**WLS REPORT** – Tr. Puglia distributed a newsletter he received from the January WLS Board meeting. The newsletter contained information on technology, the Evergreen transition and the 2020 Census. Tr. Puglia and Director Falcone led a discussion on the important role of libraries in the upcoming Census.

### **PERSONNEL REPORT**

On motion of Tr. Toubia, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board ratified the following appointments:

Delilah Futrell, P/T Page, \$12.00/hr, eff. 2/9/19  
Alan Houston, Librarian I, \$55,043.00/yr, eff. 2/22/19

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

President Guzmán-Santana appointed the following standing committees for 2019:

**Buildings & Grounds:** Guzmán-Santana, Saraceno

**Employee Relations:** Guzmán-Santana, Puglia, Toubia

**Finance, Budget & Planning:** Guzmán-Santana, Jannetti, Maron

**Policy:** Guzmán-Santana, Ilarraza

**Fundraising & Development:** Guzmán-Santana, Jannetti, Maron

Foundation Update: Tr. Guzmán-Santana announced that the *Dear George, Dear Mary* Book Talk with author Mary Calvi was a great success, drawing over 250 attendees. The Foundation also received 20% of pre-order book sales and provided good exposure for the Foundation and experience in working with a local author and community partners. The event was an opportunity to distribute save-the-date postcards of the upcoming Spring

Gala, which she also distributed to the other Trustees. Tr. Jannetti was especially impressed with how well-organized and successful the event was.

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

On motion of Tr. Jannetti, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of bills as listed on Schedule #800.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed revisions to the Board of Trustees by-laws.

On motion of Tr. Puglia, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the proposed revisions to its by-laws.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Director Falcone discussed the briefing he distributed to Trustees earlier in the month on Authentic Church's request for a long-term rental of the Grinton I. Will Auditorium. After an initial hesitation due to the extraordinary nature of the request, Director Falcone declared his support for Authentic Church's proposal, and he asked the Trustees if they would also support the request.

On motion of Tr. Jannetti, seconded and carried by a vote of 5-0 with 1 abstention, the Board approved Director Falcone to rent the Grinton I. Will Auditorium to the Authentic Church for a period of 42 Sundays beginning March 17 through the end of December.

Deputy Director Thaler spoke about how and what statistical data is provided to the Board in the monthly packets and asked how it should be presented in the future. They discussed several graphic representations such as a dashboard and what other libraries use as well as how the information can be shared with other organizations and how it can be used in advocacy. Tr. Guzmán-Santana asked that the Board carefully review the statistical data presented in their monthly packets and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting when all Trustees are present.

Director Falcone shared a draft of the guidelines and rules of VR use at the Library. The Board was pleased with it and asked Director Falcone to continue to finalize it.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE** – Thursday, March 21, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Grinton I. Will Library.

Tr. Guzmán-Santana announced that she and Trs. Touba, Maron and Jannetti would meet with the Yonkers Public Schools Instructional Affairs Committee on March 14 and invited the other Trustees to attend.

On motion of Tr. Puglia, seconded and unanimously carried, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Edward Falcone  
Library Director & Secretary