

YONKERS PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD MEETING
RIVERFRONT LIBRARY
DECEMBER 19, 2019

ATTENDANCE

TRUSTEES:	Nancy Maron Josephine Ilarraza Joseph Puglia Derrick Touba John Saraceno
LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Ed Falcone
DEPUTY DIRECTOR:	Susan Thaler
BUSINESS MANAGER:	Vivian Presedo
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:	James Hackett
WLS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:	Tr. Puglia
UNION REPRESENTATIVE:	Rose Bannister, Clerk III
GUESTS:	Dominick Savarese, President, SEIU 704B Brandon Neider

The Board Meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

MINUTES

On motion of Tr. Touba, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of November 21, 2019.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Director Falcone announced that the façade project at Will has been completed. The contractor has moved their equipment offsite and is wrapping up the finishing touches.

Director Falcone reported that only one bid was returned for the elevator project at Will, and it was beyond the project budget. He said the City Engineering

department would review the specifications of the project and would send it out to bid again in the spring.

Director Falcone announced that Staff Development Day was held November 22 and it was successful.

Director Falcone updated the Board on the Library's 2020 budget request proposal. The deadline is January 9 and the Library would have it prepared before then.

Director Falcone announced that Deputy Director Thaler had arranged for the popular tax preparation service VITA to return to the Riverfront Library for this tax season.

Tr. Saraceno arrived at 7:07 p.m.

UNION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Rep. Bannister reported that the staff wished Director Falcone a happy retirement. Pres. Savarese then announced that Mr. Neider would present the remainder of the Union Report. The Board objected to this proceeding, which was deemed irregular. Following a discussion of meeting protocol, Pres. Savarese was allowed to make a statement concerning an alleged incident concerning administrative interference with union activity. Director Falcone denied the allegation.

Mr. Neider was also permitted to make a brief report outlining his concerns about the Sunday budget, staffing levels at public service desks and alleged out-of-title work complaints. He was invited to submit his report in writing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pres. Maron proposed an adjustment to the agenda and motioned the Board into Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. to discuss the appointment or promotion of a particular person. The session ended at 7:55 p.m.

WLS REPORT

Tr. Puglia reported that several library directors announced their growing displeasure with WLS services at the last meeting, specifically criticizing ongoing computer problems connected to the migration to a new system last March. Tr. Puglia said WLS is looking for outside help to solve these problems.

PERSONNEL REPORT

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

Susan Thaler, Temporary Acting Library Director, \$165,000/yr., eff. 1/2/20
Daniela Ranallo, P/T Page, \$12.00/hr, eff. 11/29/19
Isis Caycedo, P/T Page, \$12.00/hr, eff. 11/29/19
Renee Rabadi, Librarian I, \$58,449.00/yr., eff. 12/13/19

Acknowledged the following terminations:

Edward Falcone, Library Director, \$165,000/yr., eff. 1/1/20
Christian Zabriskie, Librarian IV, \$99,260/yr, eff. 1/7/20

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Employee Relations - Guzmán-Santana, Touba, Puglia

Buildings & Grounds - Guzmán-Santana, Saraceno

Policy - Guzmán-Santana, Ilarraza

Fundraising & Development – Guzmán-Santana, Maron, Jannetti

Foundation update: Pres. Maron announced that the Foundation was reviewing the response to their annual appeal and asked other Trustees to share the appeal within their respective networks. The Foundation was also preparing to promote its annual gala in June.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Tr. Puglia, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of bills as listed on Schedule #810.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tr. Touba of the Nominating subcommittee announced the following slate of nominees for 2020 Officers to be voted on at the following Annual Meeting: Nancy Maron as President, Josephine Ilarraza as Vice President and Stephen Jannetti as Treasurer.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Falcone forwarded a request from Ivy Reeves of the organization FOCUS to serve wine at two upcoming programs, “Express Yourself” on February 27 and March 26 at the Riverfront Branch. Ms. Reeves signed an indemnity agreement and will use wrist bands to identify guests of legal age. Director Falcone declared his support for the request. Following a discussion, on motion of Tr. Saraceno, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the service of wine at the programs according the signed agreement.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE – Thursday, January 16, 2020 at the Grinton I. Will Branch.

Tr. Toubia noted his pleasure serving his five year term as Trustee and thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the Library. The Board thanked him and Tr. Guzmán-Santana for their service on the Board and wished them well. On motion of Tr. Toubia, seconded and unanimously carried, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Edward Falcone
Library Director & Secretary