

YONKERS PUBLIC LIBRARY
ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
GRINTON I. WILL BRANCH
JANUARY 16, 2020

ATTENDANCE

TRUSTEES:	Nancy Maron Stephen Jannetti Josephine Ilarraza Joseph Puglia John Saraceno
ACTING LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Susan Thaler
BUSINESS MANAGER:	Vivian Presedo
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:	James Hackett
WLS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:	Tr. Puglia
UNION REPRESENTATIVE:	Brandon Neider, PC Tech. I
GUESTS:	Dominick Savarese, President, SEIU 704B Mary Robison

The Board Meeting began at 7:02 p.m., with Acting Library Director Thaler presiding until the Election of Officers for 2020.

MINUTES

On motion of Tr. Puglia, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 19, 2019.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR YEAR 2020

Acting Director Thaler announced the slate of Officers nominated by the Nominating Subcommittee at the Meeting of December 19, 2019. With no additional nominees from the floor, the following Officers were elected by acclamation: Nancy Maron, President; Josephine Ilarraza, Vice President; Stephen Jannetti, Treasurer.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Acting Director Thaler reported that the Library operating budget request had been submitted to the City on January 7 as required. In addition, seven capital improvement project requests were submitted, including repaving the parking lot and replacing the Auditorium seating at Will, improving accessibility and replacing the windows at Crestwood, a new pickup truck, computer replacement and the annual book budget.

Acting Director Thaler reported on the transition of several personnel, including the retirement of Director Ed Falcone, the resignation of Grinton I. Will Branch Administrator Christian Zabriskie and the promotion of Aurora Cruz to replace him.

Acting Director Thaler announced that artist-in-residence Shanequa Benitez has completed her tenure in the Riverfront Art Gallery and will have an exhibit of her work in February. Additionally, several new creative arts programs for adults and families are getting underway, led by curator Haifa Bint-Kadi.

Acting Director Thaler reported that the inauguration of Mayor Spano, three City Council members and two City Court Judges was held on New Year's Day at the Riverfront Library and was very successful. She thanked the Riverfront Branch Administration and Custodial staffs for their hard work.

UNION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Representative Neider announced that the staff of the Will Branch was pleased with the promotion of Aurora Cruz and they have already noticed an improvement in staffing levels at public service desks.

Representative Neider reiterated the Union's concern about the sustainability of the overtime budget.

WLS REPORT

Tr. Puglia had nothing to report.

PERSONNEL REPORT

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

Aurora Cruz, Librarian IV, \$93,274.00/yr, eff. 1/13/20

Acknowledged the following resignation:

Michael Allen, P/T Page, \$12.00/hr, eff. 12/27/20

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES FOR YEAR 2020

Pres. Maron announced that she was hopeful the Board’s two new Trustees would be seated at the February meeting following their appointment at the next Board of Education meeting.

Pres. Maron appointed the following standing committees for the year, with additional appointments to follow at the February meeting:

Finance, Budget & Planning - Maron, Jannetti, Puglia

Employee Relations - Maron, Puglia

Buildings & Grounds - Maron, Saraceno

Policy – Maron, Ilarraza

Fundraising & Development – Maron, Jannetti

Foundation update: Pres. Maron announced two new directors would be joining the Foundation shortly and reminded the Board that the annual gala is scheduled for June 10. Acting Director Thaler commented that she expected to see special guest and author Julia Alvarez at an upcoming conference.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Tr. Jannetti, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of bills as listed on Schedule #811.

On motion of Tr. Jannetti, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board voted to designate Tr. Puglia to certify claims for payment in the absence of the Treasurer and the President.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Board and Union discussed the status of Sunday service during the summer as part of the Library’s budget request. Management and the Union agreed to continue discussion of policy ideas governing appropriate scheduling of staff and appropriate staffing levels.

NEW BUSINESS

Acting Director Thaler requested the Board approve service of wine at the upcoming gallery opening of artist-in-residence Shanequa Benitez on February 6. On motion of Tr. Saraceno, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board authorized service of alcohol at the gallery opening.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pres. Maron motioned to move into Executive Session to discuss the progress of its search for a Director at 7:49 p.m. The session ended at 9:05 p.m.

On motion of Tr. Jannetti, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board authorized President Maron to enter into negotiations with the lead candidate for Library Director.

On motion of Tr. Puglia, seconded and unanimously carried, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE – Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at the Riverfront Library.

Susan Thaler
Acting Library Director & Secretary