

## BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

June 15, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was held via Zoom on Tuesday, June 15, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Board President Maureen Walsh David, and a notification of recording was given. Those wishing to speak during public comment were asked to sign-up using the Q&A tool on Zoom. Other Board members present were: Yara Cheikh, Jane Eickhoff, Michael Netzer, Paul Schwab, Aaron Slater, and Anne West.

Staff in attendance: Sonia Alcántara-Antoine, Director; James Cooke, Assistant Director; Natalie Edington, Assistant Director; Jen Evans, Administrative Assistant; Helen Rowe, Fiscal Services Manager; Joey Schenning, Staff Association President; Liz Sundermann-Zimmer, Virtual Services and Media Creation Manager; and Jamie Watson, Collection Development Coordinator.

#### COMMUNICATION

##### *Minutes*

The Board approved the minutes of the May 18, 2021 meeting. **(Cheikh/Eickhoff)**

##### *Correspondence*

None.

##### *Upcoming Events*

Summer Meals start June 21 through August 28 at 11 BCPL branches. Free outdoor concerts from Baltimore Concert Opera will take place on June 21 at Rosedale, and June 22 at Lansdowne.

#### REPORTS

##### *Director's Report (Alcántara-Antoine)*

Director Alcántara-Antoine shared a letter sent to the Catonsville staff from a very appreciative customer.

Director Alcántara-Antoine gave a verbal Director's Report. The Director shared part of her personal story and highlighted how important representation is in the workplace. She highlighted recent positive changes that help make BCPL a welcoming organization for staff and the community. This includes the Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Advisory Group (IDEA), antiracist training for staff, and antiracist programming for the community. Director Alcántara-Antoine, working with a group of managers, is developing an Antiracist Statement for BCPL and interviews for BCPL's first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer are underway.

Director Alcántara-Antoine also noted that Brenda Johnson-Perkins, Towson Librarian, was named a 2021 Library Journal Mover and Shaker.

***Statistical Report (Alcántara-Antoine)***

Director Alcántara-Antoine shared the monthly Statistical Dashboard.

***Facilities Report (Cooke)***

The Reisterstown renovation continues on schedule. The installation of furniture and fixtures should begin in mid-July. The updated scope of work for the Catonsville renovation, including repairs to the sewer line, should be finalized soon. The project is tentatively scheduled to begin in December 2021 and take a year to complete.

The Rosedale meeting room/restroom update is now complete.

The Facilities department has been making 40-50 requests per week to Property Management regarding maintenance issues around the system.

Phase 4 of the Reopening Plan will begin July 1, 2021 and will include the restoration of a number of services. At this time the current schedule of hours will be kept in place, most likely until fall. Data around hours of operation is being assessed by a team of staff. Currently, the library remains closed on weekday nights and Sundays.

***Staff Association (Schanning)***

Mr. Schanning updated the Board on recent and upcoming Staff Association events. Some in person activities will begin later this summer. Mr. Schanning reminded the Board that they are able to participate in Staff Association activities by going to the association website.

***Board Report (Walsh David)***

Ms. Walsh David expressed support for Director Alcántara-Antoine and the library's work to eliminate barriers to access.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

***Election of Board Officers (Eickhoff)***

Ms. Eickhoff presented the following slate of officers for FY 2021: President, Maureen Walsh David; Vice President, Paul Schwab; Treasurer, Jane Eickhoff; Secretary, Anne West. The slate of officers was unanimously approved.

***Public Libraries Electronic Literary Product Access Law (Watson)***

Jamie Watson, Collection Development Manager, provided information on the Public Libraries – Electronic Literary Product Licenses – Access (HB518/SB432) law, which will go into effect on January 1, 2022. This law requires that “a publisher who offers to license an electronic literary product to the public to also offer to license the product to public libraries in the State on reasonable terms that would enable public libraries to provide library users with access to the electronic literary product.” The intent of the law is to provide equitable access to digital content from providers who currently limit or prohibitively price content available to libraries. How quickly this law will impact available content and pricing is unknown.

***Policy – Fine Free for All (Edington)***

The Board approved the adoption of Fine Free for All. Beginning July 1, 2021, no extended loan fees will be charged to any customers, and customer accounts will be cleared of current extended loan fees. Fees for lost or damaged items will remain in place. **(West/Netzer)**

***Policy – Fee Schedule (Edington)***

The Board approved a comprehensive Fee Schedule that will be updated whenever changes to library fees for services are made. **(Schwab/Eickhoff)**

**COMMENTS FROM the PUBLIC**

The Board heard comments from one member of the public. Bridget Fitzgerald asked the Board to consider changing the time of the Board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 am.

Submitted by

Anne West

Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees