

**Approved Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
Board Room 210, 7:30pm
September 18, 2019**

Trustees Present: Iain Bruce (presiding), Jocelyn Barandiaran, Russ Baris, Scott Bennewitz, Andrea Berkley, Ken Bernhard, Jonathan Cunitz (by phone), Emily DiMiceli, Puja Dhanraj, Rob Haroun, Randy Herbertson, Sivan Hong, Celeste LaCroix, Maggie Mudd, Meena Pellerin, Jeremy Price, Faye Schoenherr, Pat Wieser, Andrew Wilk

Trustees Absent: None

President's Report

Iain Bruce called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

The meeting opened with an update on the Saugatuck StoryFest, which is September 26 - 28. The event's co-directors, Cody Daigle-Orians and Alex Giannini gave a run of show and encouraged the Board to attend.

Bill then introduced Jay Miles, the new Broadcast Studio Manager. Jay told the Board a little about his past accomplishments and some of the programs he is working on.

Building Committee Update

Rob Haroun reported that the Annex will be delivered on the 24th.

Marc Laibe reported that the punchlist of the final things needed to complete the project has been nearly completed. He also reported that a small contingency remains in the Budget.

He reiterated that the Annex will arrive on the 24th and the effect on parking is unknown at the moment.

Once everything is set, the trailer on Jesup Green will be removed and the grass will be reseeded.

He also reported that that an application has been submitted, at the encouragement of Town Officials for a Green Building Award.

Both Iain and Bill then thanked both Marc Laibe and Ann Pisetzner, Owners Reps from Soundview Partners for their oversight during the Transformation. Without them, it would have been extremely difficult to manage the project, and the feeling is that their leadership is what brought the project in on time and on budget.

A motion was then made by Jocelyn Barandiaran and seconded by Russ Baris to go into Executive Session at 8:05 pm. The Board unanimously approved.

At 9:15 pm, Scott Bennewitz made a motion to come out of Executive Session which was seconded by Celeste Lacroix. The Board unanimously approved. No vote was required to be taken as a result of matters discussed in Executive Session.

Presidents Report: I. Bruce

Iain asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2019 meeting. Andrea Berkley made a motion to approve and Celeste LaCroix seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

Iain then reported that Board member Adrian Hinojos has had to resign from the Board due to work obligations. Iain noted Adrian's commitment to serving on the Board for over 4 years and thanked him for his dedication. Iain asked the Board to submit any names of persons felt to be a good replacement.

Treasurer's Report: R. Baris for J. Cunitz

Russ reported that we are two months into the current FY and that we are on Budget. He also reported that the Library received a rebate of \$21,000 from Eversource.

Finance Report: R. Baris

Russ Baris reported that the Annual audit has been completed. The audit was more detailed this year due to the Transformation Project and the money received from the state. Once again, the Library received a clean audit opinion.

Development Committee: E. DiMiceli & A. Berkley

Emily DiMiceli and Andrea Berkley reported that its Annual appeal season. They outlined the process for Board members to reach out to friends and colleagues and gave the timeline for such activities.

Gov/Nom Committee: M. Mudd

Pat Wieser distributed copies of the new Media Studios Policy. Randy Herbertson suggested that the first paragraph of the policy be changed to provide that the studios were “intended” (rather than “available”) for community use and to add the word “learn”. After discussion, Pat made a motion to approve the document with suggested changes and Sivan Hong seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

Executive Director Report: B. Harmer

Bill shared his new idea for his reporting to the Board which will consist of a Quarterly Dashboard, which will be a snapshot of how the Library is performing against goals and the Strategic Plan. He shared that Pulitzer Prize author Art Spiegelman, will be the speaker at the Malloy Lecture this year. It will be held in the Forum on November 14 at 7 pm.

Sivan Hong and Bill then shared that the fundraising event called Mix it Up, will be October 12th in the Forum and that 168 tickets have been sold to date, including all the VIP tickets.

Lastly, Bill shared that 150 students from AP Economics class from Staples High came to the Library last week to skype with Steve Perlstein, who writes for the Wall Street Journal and author of the AP Economics classes’ summer required reading book. Teachers and students, as well as the patrons who happened upon the session in the Forum that were morning were absolutely amazed.

Iain then entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Andrew Wilk, seconded by Celeste LaCroix, and unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 9:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jeremy Price
Secretary