

EAST PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2020
4:30pm

Present: M. Marcotte, Chair, K. Dias, C. LaRoux, D. Paiva, E. Ingraham
Excused: P. Silva, P. Armstrong
Staff: J. May, Acting Library Director, M. Bonds-Harmon, Head of Reference Services

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 by M. Marcotte.

Motion to accept the minutes by K. Dias and seconded by D. Paiva.

Library Financial Update

The week prior, in conversations that happened just before the Budget Workshop, it was determined that the Library was at less risk of having to apply for a waiver for SGIA funds. For the SGIA application, figures are based on expenditures not appropriations for the fiscal year. More savings from the Workshare Program and library budget surplus is going back to the City than originally figured.

At the Budget Workshop Council members Roderick, Sousa, and Cahoon made positive remarks about the Library budget receiving at least level funding.

Trustees may ask for support from friends and neighbors for the City Council Budget Public Hearing. The ask is that the Library be level funded. Friends of the Library and Book Club members may also be asked for words of support at the Public Hearing, if needed.

Last Friday the Mayor instituted a spending freeze until further notice. Our request for new laptops was denied but we may be able to access some of the 50 Surface Pros that City Hall recently purchased. For now, all departments must email the Controller for permission to purchase any materials. We will go to the Friends of the Library for money needed for the Pumpkin Stroll.

D. Paiva motions to include November 3rd, Election Day, in the library holiday schedule. M. Marcotte seconds the motion and all present are in favor.

Expansion of Services

J. May described Library open hour increases. Weaver Library will add Saturdays 9-5 and the Riverside Branch will add Wednesdays and Thursdays 10-6. This gives the library more "unique hours" while still maintaining two staffing teams. The Quiet Study Room will open for registration only use. Meeting rooms remain closed, and there continues to be no chairs for the public.

Trustee Reappointments

Four happened the previous night. J. May will follow up on the reappointments of K. Dias and P. Sousa. Once all the Trustees are reappointed, the Board will need to stagger the terms per state law. J. May will then send a letter to the Council for ratification of the terms.

Delta Mechanical will be installing the Library's new sprinkler system at a negotiated new lower price and a Champlin Grant will be partially funding the project.

M. Ingraham motioned for adjournment at 5:20pm and motioned passed unanimously.