

CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

A meeting of the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday May 18, 2022 at 6:02p at the Cranston Public Library.

Present were:

Michael Goldberg

Diane Schaefer

Mary Ann Slocomb

Regina Spirito

Larry Warner (arrived at 6:07p)

Edward Garcia, Library Director

Julie Holden, Assistant Library Director

Allyson Quintanilla (Administrative Assistant, Board Secretary)

Absent: *Jack Tregar, Taino Palermo*

MINUTES: 6:04p

A motion was made by Mary Ann Slocomb to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 13, 2022. Michael Goldberg seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION REPORT: 6:04p

Administration

-Ed gave a tour and a talk to a group of undergraduate students from Wheaton College, who were enrolled in Introduction to Libraries on April 15th.

-The library received a \$2,400 grant from OLIS for the summer reading program.

-The library received another ARPA grant for technology from OLIS for \$18,750. We are purchasing computers to update various public computers across all locations.

-A State aid reallocation form was completed to reflect the updated usage of funds previously allocated to pay for FY23 Ocean State Libraries database fees as reported at the April meeting.

-Our next General staff meeting will take place on June 9th. All Trustees are invited to attend. There will be breakfast and a virtual guest speaker Dr. Stephen Krueger who will conduct the following program: Trans 101 (1-hour presentation): This is for those who have little or no current knowledge about trans

and gender diverse people. The session will cover the basics of what gender identity is, as well as how to handle common issues such as misgendering.

-Spring 2022 LORI Delivery Item Count was completed April 3-9. Twice a year OLIS collects statistics on usage of the statewide LORI delivery network.

-The City Council passed the resolution calling on the General Assembly to provide full state aid funding to libraries at their April meeting.

-Ed and Julie were able to take a preview tour of the new Family Support Center (across from Bain Middle School) which is a new initiative of the OneCranston HEZ, and funded by the Rhode Island Foundation. The center will have three community health workers who will work at the facility and provide support, resources, and education to help families manage the challenges of parenting.

Buildings & Grounds

The Board of Elections and Governor's Commission on Disabilities did a review of Hall and Central which are periodically used as polling places. They found some deficiencies in the outdoor entrance to the Hall auditorium. The report and a letter from the Cranston Board of Canvassers is included. The reports have been forwarded to the Hall Trust to create a game plan to address.

-We have contracted with DeLuca Landscaping to do some work at Central and Auburn. They are doing a full spring cleaning at Auburn. At Central they have cleaned and mulched the front garden beds and are going to add some loom to repair the damage done to the lawn by the snowplowing. I'm also having them price out a major clean-up of the Oaklawn grounds.

-We have contracted with Chirico Construction to seal all the windows at Auburn and paint all the doors. They will also replace some rotted wood around some of the door frames and replace all the worn brass kick plates on the doors. Price estimate is \$13,000-\$15,000.

-We had a patron tell us that they smelled a strong mold odor in the program room at William Hall. In an abundance of caution, we brought in Vortex to conduct a mold and air quality inspection. The results indicated that there was no mold or air quality issues and the building was safe to occupy.

-We completed painting in the Seminar Room and C-Lab. There had been a water leak in the C-Lab that caused some paint damage back in Fall 2021.

-The Teen Nook at Oaklawn will be getting some fresh paint, new shelving, and new chairs.

Programming

-Our National Library of Medicine “Healthy Families” grant period is over, however, now we can continue this project long into the future with all the equipment and supplies we purchased. Over the last 7 months, we trained our entire staff on MedlinePlus, held over 18 programs (with an unfortunate pause during the Omicron surge), created 3 Health Information kiosks (2 digital touchscreens and one analog), translated a dozen documents into other languages, and spent over \$1000 on advertising which was an included cost in the grant. Comments have been overwhelmingly positive, such as “This healthy family series is such a great idea! I think you are doing exactly what the community needs... I plan on attending other healthy families presentations.” and “Continue on this path. Very encouraging. Thank you.”

-On April 30, we were able to provide staff for two outreach events, one was the “Chalk it Up” family event at CCAP where families were encouraged to do chalk drawings and other crafts, and one was the “YMCA Healthy Kids Day” event which is a nationwide celebration.

-On Saturday, June 4 from 11am - 2pm, Cranston Public Library and OneCranston Health Equity Zone will collaborate on a city-wide block party, taking place concurrently at the four library locations. Each branch will focus on a specific initiative of the HEZ: Physical Health and Nutrition at the Central Library will feature a mini Zumba lesson paired with nutritional information and a lunch featuring dumplings from around the world; Trauma Informed Community at the Oak Lawn Branch will combine a worry-stone painting activity with a storytime led by Tayla Cardillo; Cranston's Built Environment will be featured at the William Hall Library through a large-scale Lego building activity, "Build Your Ideal Cranston," along with a display of Andy Grover's Lego models of historic Rhode Island buildings; and finally, the Youth Opportunity working group will highlight their recent work through an autobiographical zine making activity led by Wesley Sueker. Transportation between each location will be available, and a prize raffle for those who make it to all four locations will be available.

-The library will be hosting a free eWaste pick-up event at Central on June 11.

-The Shred Day at Central was well-attended; organizers this year decided to do a drive-up system instead of having people get out of their cars and line up on the sidewalk.

-We are hosting 8 Covid vaccine clinics in May & June; 4 at Central and 4 at William Hall. Pfizer and Moderna shots will be offered: first doses, second doses, all boosters, and all ages. Working with RIDOH has been fairly seamless and they are really trying to get out into community centers now that the big vaccine sites have closed.

Hall summer concert series

-This year will mark the return of the summer concert series on the lawn at Hall. This will be the first year we have held concerts since 2019. (see attached flier)

Staff

Corrie Alves, Coordinator of Technology, was invited to join the Board of Directors of Reach Out & Read Rhode Island. It's the local chapter of a national group that gives out books to children from birth to age 5 at their regular pediatrician visits.

-Ed has been invited to participate in a two day Broadband and Digital Inclusion workshop by the American Library Association in Washington DC June 1-2. ALA will cover the cost of travel & lodging.

-Ed has been elected as a Member-at-Large to the Ocean State Libraries Steering Committee.

-Julie was at the State House again on 4/27, this time for the Senate version of the ebook bill.

Action Item: Juneteenth 2022

In the recently approved collective bargaining agreement, Juneteenth was added as a holiday. The cba doesn't officially start until July 1st. However, Ed made an error and added it to the 2022 Holiday schedule. Staff at this point are expecting the holiday. Library Administration asks the Board to approve Juneteenth as a holiday for 2021.

A motion was made by Larry Warner to recognize Juneteenth as a staff holiday during the 2022 fiscal year. Michael Goldberg seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

BUDGET REPORT: 6:32p

The budget report was distributed reflecting July 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022.
Ed Garcia circulated a list of budget line transfers as well.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on the FY2023 Library Operating Budget: 6:42p

Ed Garcia updated the board on the FY2023 Library Operating Budget status.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 6:54p

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:57p

A motion was made by Mary Ann Slocomb to adjourn the meeting. Michael Goldberg seconded the motion. Motion carried (5-0).