

CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

A meeting of the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday November 9, 2022 at 6:06p at the Cranston Central Library.

Present were:

Jack Tregar

Regina Spirito

Michael Goldberg

Larry Warner

R. Drayton Fair

Ed Garcia, Library Director

Julie Holden, Assistant Library Director

Excused: *Diane Schaefer*

Absent: *Taino Palermo*

INTRODUCTION:

New Trustee R. Drayton Fair

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 14, 2022. Larry Warner seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Administrative Updates

-We have added a free vending machine for menstrual products in the Central library women's room. This is a pilot paid for using restricted receipts. The vendor is Citron Hygiene, a local Massachusetts company who is the vendor for the Cranston School Department. We will monitor the use for a year and determine if we will continue with this program at Central and perhaps add this service to branch libraries.

-The Rhode Island chapter of the Society of Mayflower Descendants has designated the Cranston Public Library a donee library. The Society will be donating books to the library about Pilgrim genealogy and history. (included in the packet is an article from their recent newsletter).

Buildings & Grounds

-Arden has been working on the baseboard heating system on the ground level of Hall. There were some zone valves that had become inoperable.

Programming Update

-Auburn Branch Youth Services Librarian Nomi Hague will be offering a monthly Sensory Inclusive Storytime geared towards children with autism and/or developmental delays but also open to typically developing children. This storytime will have much in common with our regular storytimes in that it will include stories, rhymes, songs and related activities. However, it will also include a picture schedule, low lighting, fidget toys, sensory friendly seating options and sensory diverse activities including bubbles, play doh, and play bins. The hope is that this will be another storytime option for families that will promote peer-modeling and inclusion. The first session is scheduled for November 12th.

-Don Mellor was interviewed at the library on 10/31 by Mike Montecalvo from WPRI for Street Stories. In addition, the library is doing a Veteran's Day program called "Life Aboard a U.S. Destroyer in World War II" featuring Don. The program will be Nov. 9 at 6:30 pm at Central.

-Karen McGrath (Auburn) attended the annual Senior Living Expo at the Warwick Mall on 10/27. She reported that people who saw the Hoopla, Libby, and Kanopy flyers got very excited and had lots of questions. Also lots of interest in Zach's "On the Line" poetry service, and Open Tech Time flyers. She talked to other vendors about the Books @ Home program, which many had not heard of before.

-We started official promotion of our new touchscreen Health Kiosks at Central and William Hall. The kiosks go to Medline Plus and Consumer Health Complete (magazines and journals) and allow free printing of health topics and articles. They are placed in semi-private areas of the library and do not require a library card to login.

Staffing Update

-Cassidy Mills was hired full time at Community Libraries of Providence. Cassidy served as a part-time reference librarian at William Hall Library. She will remain on our payroll to work periodic weekend shifts.

-Dave Bartos was recently acknowledged by the author in the foreword to the book Uniting America by Peter Shinkle for his help in facilitating research for the author (included in packet).

-Ed Garcia will be attending the American Library Association Committee on Legislation retreat in Washington DC November 16-17. Ed serves as the Chair of COL.

-We have hired several new part-timers, including a new custodian for Auburn, new library aides

at Central and Auburn, and a new shelver at Central.

Cranston Public Library Association updates

-Former Trustee & CPLA Board member Mary Ann Slocomb recently gave a \$20,000 donation to CPLA.

Additions to the Library Administration Report:

Director Garcia told the board that the 11/5 Book Sale at William Hall was a success, with approximately \$2000 in revenue. The book sale was well attended and the community enjoyed it. Robin Nyzio did a great job with the many volunteers who helped out at the event. CPLA Board members Allison Walsh and Gene Emery were also very involved.

BUDGET REPORT:

The budget report was distributed reflecting July 1, 2021 - October 31, 2022. Regina Spirito asked for clarification about the billing for Group Life Insurance. Larry Warner asked a question about why the First Quarter state aid payment was not reflected in the budget. Director Garcia will look into both questions and have an answer for the December meeting.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

Director Garcia explained the new Cranston ordinance 8.46 *Consumption of Marijuana in Public Places* and how it applies to the library. Library administration will review existing policies for potential revisions to comply with the ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Approval of revised Flag Policy:

A motion was made by Regina Spirito to approve the revised Flag Policy. Michael Goldberg seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

Approval of Collection Development Procedures Manual consultant agreement:

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to approve the consultant agreement. Drayton Fair seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

NEW BUSINESS:

Director Garcia reviewed the 2022 Summer Reading Program with the board.

Approval of 2023 Holiday Schedule:

A motion was made by Larry Warner to approve the 2023 Holiday Schedule. Michael Goldberg seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

Approval of revised Meeting Room Policy:

Director Garcia reviewed the revised Meeting Room Policy with the board. The revised policy went through legal review with both the City Solicitors and The Trustees' attorney Vincent Ragosta. Larry Warner asked if there could be an exemption to allow qualified non-profit organizations to use library space to conduct Board of Directors meetings not open to the public. Director Garcia said he would explore that with legal counsel and report back with a potential future revision.

A motion was made by Larry Warner to approve the revised Meeting Room Policy. Regina Spirito seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

Review of the Equity and Inclusion Policy:

A motion was made by Drayton Fair to table the review of the Equity and Inclusion Policy until the next meeting. Regina Spirito seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

ADJOURNMENT: 7:57p

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