

MINUTES OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY TRUSTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 via Zoom

Present: Jessica Cargile (elected 5/21), Irene Conte, Julie Curtis, Charles Desmond, Christi Farrar, Natalie Luca Fiore, Michael Hagan, Frank Herschede, Donna Hopkins

Call to Order: The April 12, 2021 trustees meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Chairperson Michael Hagan.

Chairperson Hagan reviewed the letter from Governor Charles Baker outlining Open Meeting Laws and reminded us the meetings were taped.

Election of Officers: The May 12, 2021 trustee meeting was turned over to Acting Director Jennifer McGeorge to run as the committee officers had to be elected. McGeorge asked that nominations be made for Chairperson. Irene Conte nominated Michael Hagan for Chair. Julie Curtis seconded the nomination. Julie Curtis asked about the possibility of keeping the officers as is due to the pandemic and still holding meetings remotely. A discussion followed. Charles Desmond spoke about it being a very stressful year due to the pandemic year and the effect it had on individuals. He added the importance of not changing the board during these times but added we should reevaluate this before next years board election to make sure anyone interested in holding a board office would have a chance to do so. Christi Farrar asked for a review of our bylaws like other libraries are doing specifically regarding if they have a limit on how many years a member can serve consecutively as a board member. After the discussion, the motion to keep the board officers the same from last year was voted on unanimously.

Chairperson's Report: Chairperson Michael Hagan reported that some of the trustees had not forwarded copies of their Conflict of Interest results to him. Hagan informed us any patron arriving without a mask would be given one. Hagan said it was hopeful we can start meeting in person starting in September.

Director's Report: Acting Director Jennifer McGeorge advised us that the anticipated date of full reopening of the library is August 1, 2021. McGeorge added \$2,400 worth of portable protective shields had been for the staff had been received and she would be contacting the Public Works department to install this. We were informed that two part-time assistant librarians had resigned. McGeorge praised the library staff for all their hard work during these hard times.

Treasurer Report: Julie Curtis asked if the two investment accounts had been formally merged into one. She was informed they had been.

Adjournment: Where there was no other business to address, A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the May 12, 2021 meeting of the library trustees at 8:20 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie E. Curtis
Recording Secretary

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