

QUEENS LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020
MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Central Library, 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432 on Thursday, February 27, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 8:33 PM by Assistant Treasurer, Eli Shapiro, Ed. D, LCSW.

I. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Haeda Mihaltses	Chair of the Board	Excused	
Robert Santos, Esq.	Vice Chair of the Board	Excused	
Earl G. Simons, Ed. D	Secretary	Present	
Lydon Sleeper O'Connell	Treasurer	Excused	
Eli Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW	Assistant Treasurer	Present	
Judy E. Bergtraum, Esq.	Board Member	Present	
Julissa Gutierrez	Board Member	Present	
Matthew M. Gorton	Board Member	Present	
James M. Haddad, Esq.	Board Member	Excused	
Pauline Healey	Board Member	Present	
Richard Hogan	Board Member	Present	
Andrew P. Jackson	Board Member	Present	
Deborah King	Board Member	Present	
Carl S. Koerner, Esq.	Board Member	Present	
Michael E. Rodriguez, Esq.	Board Member	Present	
George Russo, Esq.	Board Member	Excused	
Edward Sadowsky, Esq.	Board Member	Excused	
Terri Thomson	Board Member	Present	
Eve Cho Guillergan, Esq.	Rep - Speaker	Excused	
Elizabeth Guzman, Esq.	Rep - Public Advocate	Excused	

Census application. The Library has been preparing to support the Census for several months. The Library has hired 10 Census navigators, who are multilingual, and specifically trained to assist staff in Census outreach. Staff that will be working with the Census have attended three mandatory webinars, public service training for front line staff, and several in-house trainings. April 1 is Census Day and in observance of this day, all Library locations are scheduled remain open until 8pm to provide programs and events such as Census parties, outreach activities and in hard to count communities, programs such as “We Count” story times. Ms. Peng also that there has been reports of fraudulent and scamming activity around collecting Census data in the community although data collection has not started as of yet. The Library has reported this information to Census for follow-up.

William Goldband, Vice President, Information and Technology Department (ITD) reported that that there are approximately 90 dedicated stations for customers to complete the Census, in hopes that customers will have quick access to complete and a sense of security. Census data will not be stored in the Library database; ITD is working closely with the City Cyber Center to ensure that any information received will upload directly to the Census. He also noted that although the Census is available to complete by mail and/or in person, this would be the first time it is available online. Mr. Goldband also reported that the link would also be available for access on the Queens Library website.

Mr. Walcott asked Justin Deabler, General Counsel and Sr. VP., to report on the status of the UPK program at the Ravenswood location. Mr. Deabler reported that the Ravenswood UPK program is currently closed due to severe molding issues and the safety of the children participating in the program. NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA) has been working closely with the Library to remedy the issue and providing regular updates on the status of the renovations. It is uncertain of the timeline for completion renovations and/or reopening at this location. The board will continue to receive updates on the status of Ravenswood UPK program.

Mr. Walcott asked that Amy Mugavero, Executive Director, Queens Public Library Foundation (QPLF) and Carl Koerner, Esq, QPLF Board Chair, give a report on the status of the upcoming QPLF Gala. Ms. Mugavero reported that the gala is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5. To date, the foundation has raised approximately \$264,000 with its goal to raise \$500,000. Ms. Mugavero reported that former borough president, Hon. Claire Schulman will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The gala invitations are printed and ready for mail. Ms. Mugavero expressed that although all the board members have pledged and hopes to see all board members attend this year’s gala.

Ms. Mugavero reported to the board that the foundation has raised more funding in the annual fund in the first half of fiscal year 2019 than in all of fiscal year 2018. Donor funding has increased by 50% and donor upgrading has increased by 15%.

Ms. Mugavero also announced that the foundation recently received an additional two

4. Proposed FY 2021 Holiday Schedule (ID # 2209)**Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:**

I move that the Board of Trustees approve the library system close at 1:00 p.m. on December 24, 2020 and on December 31, 2020.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Matthew M. Gorton
SECONDER:	Julissa Gutierrez
AYES:	Simons Ed. D, Shapiro Ed. D LCSW, Bergtraum Esq., Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Hogan, Jackson, King, Koerner Esq., Rodriguez Esq., Thomson
EXCUSED:	Mihaltses, Santos Esq., O'Connell, Haddad Esq., Russo Esq., Sadowsky Esq.

5. Amendment to By-Laws (ID # 2228)**Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:**

I move that the Board of Trustees approve amending the By-Laws to delete the following phrase in Article V, Section 7: "...in November of each year....", and to adopt the substitute language in Article V, Section 7 "...no later than November of each year..." as referenced in the attachment hereto.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Judy E. Bergtraum Esq.
SECONDER:	Carl S. Koerner Esq.
AYES:	Simons Ed. D, Shapiro Ed. D LCSW, Bergtraum Esq., Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Hogan, Jackson, King, Koerner Esq., Rodriguez Esq., Thomson
EXCUSED:	Mihaltses, Santos Esq., O'Connell, Haddad Esq., Russo Esq., Sadowsky Esq.

6. Personnel Report - January 2020 (ID # 2207)

RESULT:	PRESENTED
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7. Personnel Report - December 2019 (ID # 2148)

RESULT:	PRESENTED
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8. Motion to Go into Executive Session (ID # 2215)

The following library staff were present during Executive Session:

- Dennis M. Walcott, President and CEO
- Justin Deabler, Esq., General Counsel and Sr. VP.
- Sung Mo Kim, Esq., Chief Operating Officer and Sr. VP.
- Sara Hausner-Levine, Esq., Deputy General Counsel
- Justin Carroll, Esq., Associate General Counsel

Recommended Motion for Consideration:

I move that the meeting move into Executive Session, to discuss pending litigation.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Judy E. Bergtraum, Esq.
SECONDER:	Andrew P. Jackson
AYES:	Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Bergtraum, Esq., Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Hogan, Jackson, King, Koerner, Esq., Rodriguez, Esq., Thomson
EXCUSED:	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., O'Connell, Haddad, Esq., Russo, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

9. Motion to Return to Public Session (ID # 2216)

Eli Shapiro, Ed.D., LCSW departed at 9:30pm and was excused from this portion of the board meeting.

Recommended Motion for Consideration:

I move that the meeting return to Public Session.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Carl S. Koerner, Esq.
SECONDER:	Judy E. Bergtraum, Esq.
AYES:	Simons, Ed. D, Bergtraum, Esq., Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Hogan, Jackson, King, Koerner, Esq., Rodriguez, Esq., Thomson
EXCUSED:	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., O'Connell, Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Haddad, Esq., Russo, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

VII. Adjournment

1. Motion to Adjourn (ID # 2206)

Eli Shapiro, Ed.D., LCSW departed at 9:30pm and was excused from this portion of the board meeting.

Recommended Motion for Consideration:

I move that the meeting be adjourned.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Matthew M. Gorton
SECONDER:	Michael E. Rodriguez, Esq.
AYES:	Simons, Ed. D., Bergtraum, Esq., Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Hogan, Jackson, King, Koerner, Esq., Rodriguez, Esq., Thomson
EXCUSED:	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., O'Connell, Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Haddad, Esq., Russo, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

The meeting was closed at 9:44 PM.

Secretary