

## **April 4, 2023 Bayonne Library Board of Trustees Minutes.**

**7:00 pm:** President Doria called the meeting to order and read the “open meeting” announcement once a quorum of members were present.

**Attendance: Present:** Ryan Blake, Maribeth Doria, Vincent Pelote, Donna Russo, Jennifer Vecchiarelli, and Caroline Ulivella.

**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Melody Scagnelli-Townley, Interim Library Director and Rachel Fairley, representing Douglas S. Zucker, Esq., Board Attorney.

**Agenda item: March 2023 minutes.** Approval of minutes moved by President Doria, seconded by Secretary Russo, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Agenda item: Consideration of March Bills lists.** Approval of bills list was moved by President Doria, seconded by Trustee Ulivella, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-05 “RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICES TO TEKCON CONSTRUCTION”.** After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, resolution approval was moved by Vice-President Pelote, seconded by Director Doria, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-06 “RESOLUTION APPROVING CERTAIN NON-UNION SALARY ADJUSTMENTS”.** After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, Secretary Russo raised concern that the resolution included the word “interest” in the last sentence, which suggested that the increases were to be awarded with interest. With the caveat that the increases would be paid retroactively without interest, resolution approval was moved by Secretary Russo, seconded by Director Doria, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Note:** After the meeting, Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley conferred with Mr. Zucker, who confirmed that interest was never intended, and the word “interest” was a typo, which should have read “increase”. Therefore, the typo was corrected and Ms. Doria signed the Resolution with the correct wording.

**Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-07 “RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENTS TOWARDS EXPENSES FOR THE FORMER STORY COURT BRANCH”.** After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, resolution approval was moved by Director Doria, seconded by Vice-President Pelote, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-08 “RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICES TO CLARKE CATON HINTZ ARCHITECTS.”** After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, resolution approval was moved by Vice-President Pelote, seconded by Director Doria, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Agenda item: Interim Director's Report (including Construction Updates).** For construction updates: Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley reported on the progress of the 31st St. construction project and the partial reopening to the public of the 31st St. branch while renovations continue. She reported on the temporary hours for the Story Court branch (Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm) and the temporary hours for the 31st St. branch (Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 9 pm, and Friday & Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm). She described the services available to the public in both locations. She also reported how the public had been notified of the above changes. She described the Board Room rearrangement plan, which was initiated by JP. She reported on the projected summer closure in June & July of the 31st St. building while asbestos abatement, boiler work, and elevator car replacement occurs. She also reported on the payments being approved to the construction company, TekCon, and the architects, CCH.

For non-construction updates: Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley reported that the civil service transfer of employees from the City of Bayonne to Bayonne Public Library within the CAMPS system was underway and that a retroactive start date of January 1, 2023 had been chosen. She also reported that a meeting date was trying to be set for the next union negotiations meeting. She mentioned a medical emergency that a patron experienced at the Story Court location on March 28, 2023. And, she offered her thanks to former Director JP Porcaro for his assistance with the transfer of the Director position and all relevant information.

**Agenda item: Public Comments.** Bayonne Resident Donna Holovach thanked the Library and the City of Bayonne for keeping the Story Court location open while renovations continue since she believed residents might have concerns with entering the 31st St. library while it remains under construction.

**Meeting adjournment was moved by Vice-President Pelote, seconded by Secretary Russo, passed by unanimous voice vote at 7:41 pm.**