

June 6, 2023 Bayonne Library Board of Trustees Minutes.

7:08 pm: President Doria called the meeting to order and read the “open meeting” announcement once a quorum of members were present.

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

Absent: Jennifer Vecchiarelli.

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

Agenda item: May 2023 minutes. Approval of minutes moved by President Doria, seconded by Vice-President Pelote, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Agenda item: Consideration of May Bills lists. Approval of bills list was moved by Trustee Ulivella, seconded by Vice-President Pelote, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-12 “RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF CERTAIN INVOICES TO CLARKE CATON HINTZ FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE LIBRARY”. After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, resolution approval was moved by Secretary Russo, seconded by Vice-President Pelote, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-13 “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD PRESIDENT AND INTERIM DIRECTOR TO APPROVE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT DURING JULY AND AUGUST 2023”. After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, resolution approval was moved by Secretary Russo, seconded by Trustee Ulivella, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-14 “RESOLUTION APPROVING ANNUAL CONTRACT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES WITH OCLC”. After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, resolution approval was moved by Secretary Russo, seconded by President 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 on the summer closure in June, July, and August of the 31st St. building while asbestos abatement, boiler work, and elevator car replacement occurs. She reported about the special arrangements that had been made with the architects and general contractors, which would allow the building to remain open on Tuesday, June 6th and Wednesday, June 7th so that the regular scheduled municipal election and voting machine pick-up could occur. She reported on the available services at Story Court. And 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 on the submission of the second state grant requisition payment for \$500,000 and described the payment structure for the remaining two payments. She reported about the conclusion of union negotiations and the updates to the Memorandum of Agreement. She also reported on the success of the April Autism Summit and the new Bayonne Book Club. She reported about her attendance and presentation at the New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference. And she reported about the upcoming September issuance of official Bayonne Library emails for all Trustees.

Agenda item: Public Comments. Bayonne Resident Donna Holovach reported that she preferred full hours (i.e. not summer hours) at Story Court.

Agenda item: Executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. Board moved to executive session at 7:45 pm, moved by President Doria, seconded by Secretary Russo.

Board moved out of executive session at 8:19 pm moved by Secretary Russo, seconded by Vice-President Pelote.

Agenda item: Consideration of Resolution 2023-15 “RESOLUTION APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH AFSCME LOCAL 2261”. After Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley read the resolution text, resolution approval was moved by Secretary Russo, seconded by Trustee Ulivella, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Other Business: A motion was made to approve a pay raise to Interim Director Scagnelli-Townley in the amount of \$10,000, on an annualized basis, effective with the next payroll period. Resolution approval was moved by Secretary Russo, seconded by Trustee Blake, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Board Attorney Zucker noted that there was still a need to discuss filling the vacant Board seat in Fall.

Meeting adjournment was moved by Trustee Blake, seconded by Secretary Russo, passed by unanimous voice vote at 8:20 pm.