

METROPOLITAN NEW YORK LIBRARY COUNCIL
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, November 17, 2014
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Joshua Greenberg (phone), Milan Hughston, Norman Jacknis, James Neal (phone), Patricia Skarulis (phone), Ann Thornton (phone), Bonnie Tijerina, Louis Zacharilla

Not Present: LaRuth Gray, Betty Rosa

Staff: Jason Kucsma, Shelly Mohammed, Laura Forshay

Norman Jacknis brought the meeting to order at approximately 3:04 p.m.

Jacknis moved to accept the board minutes from the September 9, 2014 board meeting, seconded by Milan Hughston. The board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Jacknis spoke to the board about his involvement in the working group for the Aspen Institute's project on The Future of Public Libraries. Aspen Institute has released its report: *Rising To The Challenge: Re-envisioning Public Libraries*. Board members were encouraged to visit the report. Jacknis turned attention to Ann Thornton, noting that her term as board member will expire this year. Jacknis expressed thanks and well wished to Thornton, inviting other Board members to volunteer for the Treasurer position if they were interested. Next, Jason Kucsma introduced Bonnie Tijerina. Kucsma briefly introduced the board, mentioning the work she has done to-date and her recent appointment as a Data and Society Fellow -- all in the context of recommending her as a new addition to the board. Kucsma invited Tijerina to share a little more about the work she's been doing.

Jacknis moved to vote Tijerina in as a member of the METRO board. Hughston seconded. The board unanimously voted Tijerina in as a METRO board member (to be voted on by the membership in January).

Thornton provided a brief update on METRO's finances, starting with the Income and Expense statement. Thornton remarked that revenue is higher than predicted, due to personnel adjustments and training center rentals and highlighted the gains in the Operating Reserve and Quasi Endowment funds. Thornton then brought attention to METRO's audit. Having met with the auditors, Thornton expressed that the audit was successful with no formal notes from the auditors. There was no management letter from the auditors and METRO's overall finances are in great health.

Kucsma thanked Thornton for her time and service on the board, and Thornton spoke briefly about the treasurer position and encouraged others to step into that role.

Executive Director's Report:

Kucsma provided a brief update on METRO activities, including:

- Wikipedia at The Frick with 60 Minutes (Airs in December)
- Knight News Challenge (Proposal made it to the finalist stage)
- METRO Annual Conference Schedule (January 15, 2015)

Leadership Lab debut
ALA meeting on December 2 (Agenda forthcoming)
ALA I Love My Librarian
National Digital Stewardship Residency Program Updates
ESDN Updates
Presentation in Denver

Jacknis directed the conversation to METRO's Strategic Plan. Kucsma provided a first draft of the plan to the board. Jacknis encouraged the board to examine the draft and provide notes, comments, and revisions to the board and/or Kucsma by Thursday, January 8, 2015.

Kucsma will email 2015 dinner date options to the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

The next board meeting is Tuesday, February 17, 2015, 3-5 p.m. at METRO.