Present: Josh Greenberg (video), Milan Hughston (video), Norman Jacknis (video), Mary Lee Kennedy (phone), Shannon Mattern (video), Leah Meisterlin (video), Jim Neal (phone), Christopher Platt (phone), Lisa Rosenblum (phone), Patricia Skarulis (video)

Not Present: LaRuth Gray, Bonnie Tijerina

Staff: Nate Hill, Shelly Mohammed

Norman Jacknis brought the meeting to order at approximately 3:05 p.m.

Jacknis moved to accept the board minutes from the December 8, 2016 board meeting, seconded by Lisa Rosenblum. The board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Treasurer’s Finance Report:
Greenberg provided a brief update on METRO’s finances, starting with the Statement of Financial Position. The Quasi-endowment fund was decreased by $250,000 to cover ESDN through June 2017 (board authorized). These funds were transferred from the Quasi-endowment to the Special Project Fund. Greenberg mentioned the finance committee will convene before the next board meeting to discuss additional move expenses and where those funds will come from. They will return with recommendations on how to move forward. Jim Neal suggested more up-to-date finance documents. Shelly Mohammed explained there will always be a 1-2 month backlog because of the way METRO does business. Neal asked about the status of METRO’s investments: What has happened to the corpus over the last 3 months; are there gains in the current investment; what should we do going forward; how do we invest the rent check from the landlord? Greenberg mentioned these questions will all be discussed in future finance committee meetings.

Jacknis motioned to accept the treasurer’s report, seconded by Neal. The board voted unanimously to accept treasurer’s report.

Executive Director’s Report:
New office update
● In, but still unpacking. Small construction projects continue.
● Figuring out studio space and events.
Researching possible partnerships
● Met with the Internet Archives Scanning Center in Princeton, NJ. Investigating what kind of relationship we may have with them.
● Speaking with Story Corp.
● XFR Collective.
Staff changes
● Metadata Specialist will be relocating. We will contract with him until his replacement is hired.
Other revenue sources
● New York Historical Society proposal to move their digital asset management system to Islandora
for METRO to host and support.

Events and Travel
Albany trip for ESLN meeting before Advocacy Day.
Joined a subcommittee on the use and 5 year plan for the LSTA funds.
ALA Leadership meeting focused on METRO & ALA partnership.
Organized and moderating a panel at The New York City School of Data event on 3/4/2017.
Cooper Hewitt Talk rescheduled for March 9th.

Invited Speakers:
Ben Vershbow, Consultant Formerly NYPL Labs, Institute for the Future of the Book
XFR Collective

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

2017 Board Meeting Dates:
Thursday, April 27, 2017
Friday, June 30, 2017
Thursday, September 7, 2017
Monday, November 6, 2017
Monday, December 11, 2017 (virtual)
All meetings are 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at METRO.