

METROPOLITAN NEW YORK LIBRARY COUNCIL
Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, September 24, 2020
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Nick Buron (video), Stephen Bury (video), Valeda Dent (video), Donna Gibson (video), Josh Greenberg (video), Nicholas Higgins (video), Shannon Mattern (video), Caryl Matute (video), Leah Meisterlin (video), Jim Neal (video), Kameelah Rasheed (video)

Not Present: Greta Byrum, Melissa Jacobs, Brian Kenney

Staff: Nate Hill (video), Shelly Mohammed (video)

Shannon Mattern brought the meeting to order at approximately 3:03 p.m.

Mattern motioned to accept the minutes from the 7/20/2020 board meeting. Moved by Stephen Bury and seconded by Kameelah Rasheed, the board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Mattern motioned to reaffirm the online vote to authorize METRO to proceed to initiate discussions with the landlord, with the objective to break the current lease at the least financial impact on METRO. Online vote taken 8/25/2020. Moved by Josh Greenberg and seconded by Rasheed, the board voted unanimously to reaffirm the vote.

President's Report

Mattern spoke about having talks with architecture schools regarding the future of the post-pandemic library. What the library will look like; how services will be transformed; how digital services will increase; and what the physical space will look like.

Finance Report

Shelly Mohammed explained there are \$2.1M in reserves (investments), \$1.1M in CD's: \$3.2M total in reserves and \$1.2M in cash. Josh Greenberg noted these funds were spread out through a Vanguard account, however, the \$1.1M was recently moved into a CD to cover any operating expenses moving forward and in accordance with bylaws. Nate Hill reminded the board that the state funding for the councils' has been cut by 22%.

Executive Director's Report:

- Studio and events update
- Digital grant program, Equity in Action
- Staff updates-new hire
- Archipelago updates
- Invest in Open Infrastructure ([IOI](#)) participation
- REALM project discussion
- 599 lease discussion

After the director's report, Mattern initiated discussion about the future of the post-pandemic library.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

2020 Board Meeting Dates

Monday, November 16, 2020 (virtual)

Thursday, December 10, 2020 (virtual)

All meetings are 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.