

METROPOLITAN NEW YORK LIBRARY COUNCIL
Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, May 17, 2024
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL)
455 5th Ave., 5th Floor, Room 502

Minutes

Present: H. Austin Booth, Nick Buron, Stephen Bury, Nick Higgins, Patricia Hswe, Shannon Mattern, Leah Meisterlin, Jesse Montero, Kameelah Rasheed

Not Present: Melissa Jacobs, Caryl Matute, Jim Neal

Staff: Nate Hill, Shelly Mohammed

Shannon Mattern brought the meeting to order at approximately 3:05 p.m.

Minutes:

Mattern motioned to accept the minutes from the 03/08/2024 board meeting. Moved by Leah Meisterlin and seconded by Nick Higgins, the board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

President's Update:

Mattern will be resigning as board president as of July 1. She will accept a new contract role as Director of Creative Research and Practice with METRO.

Meisterlin motioned to accept Mattern's resignation as president of the board. Moved by Nick Higgins and seconded by Stephen Bury, the board voted unanimously to accept the resignation.

Agenda Item: New Board Candidates

The board received brief biographies of the new board candidates. The candidates and their respective nominators are as follows:

Jim Neal (formerly Emeritus): Nomination moved by Nick Buron, seconded by Bury. The motion passed unanimously.

Karen Fairbanks: Nomination moved by Meisterlin, seconded by Mattern. The motion passed unanimously.

Terry Kirchner: Nomination moved by Bury, seconded by Mattern. The motion passed unanimously.

Each candidate's nomination was discussed, and after thorough consideration, the board voted unanimously to accept all three candidates. The board looks forward to the valuable contributions these new members will bring to the organization.

Agenda Item: FY 24–25 Budget Review and Approval

Prior to the meeting, the board was provided with the proposed FY24–25 budget for review. During the meeting, the board conducted a brief review and discussion of the budget. A key point of the budget was the 3% cost of living raise for staff. Following the discussion, Mattern motioned to accept the budget. Moved by Buron and seconded by Meisterlin, the board voted unanimously to approve the FY 24–25 budget.

Agenda Item: Bylaws Revision

Prior to the meeting, the board was provided with the proposed revisions to the METRO bylaws, as prepared by the law office of Stephanie Cole Adams. During the meeting, the board conducted a brief review of the amended bylaws. Following the review, Mattern motioned to accept the revisions to METRO's bylaws. Moved by Higgins, and seconded by Meisterlin, the board voted unanimously to approve the revisions to METRO's bylaws.

These changes ensure that the bylaws are up-to-date and in compliance with current legal standards, reflecting the board's dedication to maintaining effective governance practices.

Executive Director's Report:**Miscellany**

- New METRO brand updates
- Upcoming conferences that staff will be attending
- Conversations with Civic Hall
- Upcoming programs and events are shared in the link through the chat

Digital Services / Repositories

- Archipelago updates
- Digital Equity Research Center updates
- Revs Institute conversations

Agenda Item: Revisions to METRO's 5-Year Plan of Service

The Executive Director discussed the needed adjustments to METRO's 5-year Plan of Service as recommended by the state. Following the presentation and discussion, Mattern motioned to accept the proposed revisions. Moved by Jesse Montero, and seconded by Higgins, the board voted unanimously to accept the revisions to the 5-Year Plan of Service.

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Library Field Events Presentation: Sarah Nguyễn, Itza Carbajal

Library Field Presentation: Nate Hill

The board discussed the proposal to authorize the Executive Director to access reserve funds to place the deposit on 249 Croton Dam Road, and to begin spending reserves on supporting activities during the due diligence period of the contract with the seller.

Mattern motioned to approve. Moved by Buron and seconded by Bury, the board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director to access reserve funds for the stated purposes.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

2024 Board Meeting Dates:

Friday, July 26, 2024

Thursday, September 26, 2024

Friday, December 6, 2024