

SOMERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING, December 11, 2024

Minutes

ATTENDING

TRUSTEES: Kate Van Sleet, April Kuehnhoff, Mark Sternman, Janaki Perera, Anandavalli Thiagarajan, Ami Feldman, Carla Lillvik

ABSENT: Mike Smith

GUEST: Karen Stevens, Sarah Pascarella

DIRECTOR: Cathy Piantigini

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Perera called the meeting of the Library Board of Trustees to order at 6:05 pm.

MINUTES

Mark Sternman motioned to approve the minutes from November. Janaki Perera seconded and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Last week the library completed a successful staff development day.
2. The City sent an employee counselor to the West Branch before the employee on administrative leave returned.
3. Media coverage and social media posts were made about a library personnel matter.
4. Teen behavior has been better. The security guard has been helping but now there is a rotating staff of 3-4 guards instead of a regular person. The current contract ends at the end of the calendar year. Contacted the Mayor's office about extending the contract.
5. No update about the City's policy for the use of camera footage. The Library does not have access.
6. Staffing updates - two new full time vacancies and two new part-time vacancies in addition to the previous vacancies.
7. City held a meeting to hear results of a Harvard study mapping teen services and needs. Unclear what the next steps are.
8. The Mayor approved the new Trustee and must be approved by the City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Trustees reviewed the Guidelines for Patron Use of In-Library Technology. April Kuehnhoff motioned to approve the policy, Mark Sternman seconded, and the policy was unanimously adopted.
2. Trustees reviewed drafts of Standards of Library Behavior and the Safety Enforcement Matrix.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Discussed the Mayor's new reappointment process for the City's advisory boards.
2. Somerville Public Library Foundation is working on the sale of one of their properties.
3. Friends of the Somerville Public Library has had some successful recent fundraisers.

COMMITTEES

1. Communications Committee - Mark Sternman will have a draft of the newsletter by the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and no objection, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Trustees will be held on January 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm. The open meeting will take place in the Director's Office at the Central Branch Library.

April Kuehnhoff, Secretary