

# **SOMERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING, April 9, 2025**

### *Minutes*

#### **ATTENDING**

TRUSTEES: Kate Van Sleet, April Kuehnhoff, Mark Sternman, Sarah Pascarella, Mike Smith, Carla Lillvik, Anandavalli Thiagarajan

ABSENT: Janaki Perera, Ami Feldman

GUEST:

DIRECTOR: Cathy Piantigini

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice President Perera called the meeting of the Library Board of Trustees to order at 6:04 pm.

#### **MINUTES**

Sarah Pascarella motioned to approve the minutes from March. Mark Sternman seconded and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

1. Old maple tree behind the West Branch has to be taken down.
2. Library is getting a citation from the City Council for National Library Week.
3. Loss of federal library funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will have limited direct impact for Somerville Public Library. However, the loss of funds will impact state funding for the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.
4. One of the East Branch librarians retired. Hiring is ongoing for other library vacancies.
5. The Safety Committee met at the end of March.
6. Drag Queen Storytime planning committee met for a second time.
7. City budget meetings are moving forward. Library will submit a budget proposal for level service funding.
8. Parts for the elevator at the Central Library are in Somerville and are awaiting installation.
9. Tile in Wellington Hall in Central needs additional repairs.
10. Pest control issues ongoing at the Central Library.
11. West Branch Library needs repairs to lighting and the handicap access button for the door.
12. Director met with a consultant about drafting the rules of conduct and will be moving forward with the consultant to draft these.

13. Director is moving forward with the consultant for the strategic plan with a goal of completing the process by January.
14. Teen behavior remains better than last year. Security guard remains helpful in diffusing negative conduct.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

1. The Foundation and the Friends will be participating in a candidate forum for mayoral candidates.
2. The Friends of the Public Library will have the next book sale June 6-8th. Pint night will be June 26th.
3. The Foundation will send out an appeal to some big donors.

### **COMMITTEES**

1. Communications Committee - Janaki Perera circulated a draft newsletter. She will finalize and mail it to the City Councilors.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business and no objection, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Trustees will be held on May 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm. The open meeting will take place in the Director's Office at the Central Branch Library.

April Kuehnhoff, Secretary