

**ENGLEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES**

**May 20, 2024**

Call to Order 7:33pm

**Roll Call**

| <b>Trustees</b>                               | <b>Present</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| Nina Nanasi, President                        | X              |               |
| Debra Trachtenberg, Vice President            | X (7:41)       |               |
| Devry Pazant, Treasurer                       | X (7:41)       |               |
| Howard Haughton, Secretary                    | X              |               |
| Courtney Johnson-Suffern                      | X              |               |
| Amy Jones Bulluck, Mayor's Alternate          | X              |               |
| Flor Ramirez                                  |                | X             |
| Stacey Rosenzweig                             | X              |               |
| Gina Edone, School Superintendent's Alternate | X              |               |

**Suspend the Agenda**

To give the Buildings and Grounds Committee Report due to time constraints.

**Buildings and Grounds**

Dr. Rosenzweig shared that we are officially approved by the New Jersey State Library and will be sent instructions for the transfer of funds. There is a need for a resolution to be approved by the Library Board of Trustees so that the executive board can sign all of the agreements that need to be signed and returned back to the New Jersey State Library. Once forms are complete, we can move forward with hiring. The forms have all been vetted by the Library Attorney. Dr. Rosenzweig again shared the plans for the space and the relocation of funds from the defunct outdoor meeting space to additional indoor meeting space renovations and for the need for community engagement during this process.

Mr. Haughton made a motion to go into closed session, seconded by Mrs. Trachtenberg. Approved.

### **Closed Session**

Mr. Haughton made a motion to come out of closed session, seconded by Mrs. Trachtenberg. Approved.

### **Minutes**

Dr. Rosenzweig made a motion to approve the Minutes from February 12, 2024, seconded by Mr. Haughton. Abstentions: Mrs. Jones Bulluck and Mr. Pazant. Approved.

Dr. Rosenzweig made a motion to approve the Minutes from March 18, 2024, seconded by Mr. Haughton. Abstentions: Mrs. Jones Bulluck and Mr. Pazant. Approved.

### **Reports**

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Haughton made a motion to approve the April 2024 Treasurer's Report and the Bill List, seconded by Dr. Rosenzweig. Approved.

#### **Interim Directors Report**

Ms. Senedzuk shared; April started off with the wonderful news that our ESL grant, formally known as: NJ DOL CLALCP Grant, was awarded approval for continuation in 2024-2025 session. Our ESL classes are thriving and we are pleased that we can continue to serve our community. I have been attending mandatory meetings for both CLALCP (ESL) and CPF grants. All web-recordings and supplementary materials are shared with relevant staff and committees.

The library experienced solar eclipse mania on April 8, we received over 300 phone calls that day seeking glasses. All of our glasses were given out in the week prior and those who had them were pleased to see the celestial show. We also collected the glasses after the event, in order to send them to a group who is collecting them to send to South America who will experience a solar eclipse later this year as it crosses the southern hemisphere.

There was a small leak in the ceiling in the same spot in the Resources section. DPW came in to do a roof check, and we haven't had a problem since. The slopes of the roof and where the drains are located are the

issues. It was six months since the last leak, so whatever is being done, is helping. We also had a few unseasonably warm days and were met with complaints about the temperature in the building. We assured them that with the warmer months approaching, that we have contacted Reiner to switch us over to air conditioning. Hopefully These issues will be resolved with the prospect of the new HVAC system.

The Friends of the Library book sale is set for Friday, May 31 through Sunday, June 2, 2024. Last year's book sale was the first since 2020, and went very well. The friends annual fund our museums passes and programs, we are wishing them much success again this year.

Ms. Senedzuk shared that Selim Likovic updated the Museum Pass Binders at the Circulation desk to make it more efficient for my staff to use, and also Selim updated the terms and conditions sheet for the museum passes to make patrons more informed when checking out the passes. Sleim cleared the new book sections of older titles to make room for incoming April titles. All monthly circulation reports and statistics were completed in a timely manner. Also due to the growing popularity with the new circulation displays checkouts have greatly increased.

Ms. Senedzuk shared that David Schwalbe reported that during the month of April, there were 19 adult online programs and 50 (a record) in-house programs (426 attendances).

Ms. Senedzuk shared that Leslie Taylor is proud and honored to report that she has been asked and accepted an invitation to discuss the important work that librarians do for their libraries and community. The write2matter.com group is sponsoring "The African American Book Joy Fair" here at The Englewood Public Library on Sunday, June 9th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. The main focus will be on the challenging issues librarians are presented with, as well as the joy that comes with pursuing a career in the field.

Leslie also had the honor of getting the library and myself cited in a recent publication titled "The Morrows of Englewood: An Extraordinary American Family" by Allen E. Hye. She did extensive research for him and also provided useful contacts in Englewood so he could acquire more information for his book. He donated a copy of the book for the library and it is currently being cataloged. There is an excerpt in the book that shows pictures of Mr. Morrows' will and where he designates 10,000 to the Free Library of Englewood, N.J. We are happy to see that the people of Englewood had pride, as we still do, in our library.

Ms. Senedzuk shared that Donna-Lynne Cooper reported that the Week of the Young Child held the second week in April. We supplied wall space

for a small art exhibit of work done by the kids from the Quarles School. We worked with Zulema Pena, Community and Parent Involvement Specialist from the district, and art teacher, Chloe Lavalley, to coordinate the effort. The art, which has remained up, is cute and colorful, adds a very cheery note to our room, and we hope brings as much enjoyment to patrons as it does to us.

Michelle Jurgenson signed up for the BCCLS supervisory training, and attended her first two sessions this month. She has reported that she found them to be well done and useful.

Donna-Lynne is thrilled to report that in her almost 28 years at the library, for the first time ever, CR circulation surpassed the 7,000 mark. We all gave a cheer in the department when we saw this, and we do hope to see the upward trend continue.

## **Committee Reports**

### **School Report**

Mrs. Edone asks that Ms. Senedzuk share the ESL flyers with her via email, so that they may be shared district wide. Mrs. Edone shared that there will be a health fair at the Middle School on May 29, 2024 at 5:00 pm, with a focus on mental health since May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The High School announced on June 11, 2024 that they are opening the food pantry, which was completed thanks to a partnership with Stop and Shop, that will benefit the community. The Englewood School District is celebrating Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, with all of the school's students joining together at the High School to watch and partake in a dance and musical performance. Mrs. Edone also asked that Ms. Senedzuk please share with her information about how to get a library card and for a flyer to be shared throughout the district to bring new families into the library. Mrs. Edone also informed us of the Education Connect Camps; educational camps being held this summer. Education Connect Camps is for grades Pre-k 4 through 11th grade, and consists of Literacy Camp, Math Camp, Coding Camp, and Keyboarding Camp. The Connect Camp will also be putting together Little Free Libraries around the city. Lastly, state testing will be completed district wide.

## **Old Business**

None.

## **New Business**

Mr. Haughton made a motion to accept the CPF Grant Resolution as presented, seconded by Mrs. Jones Bulluck . Approved.

Mr. Haughton made a motion to accept the personnel action forms, seconded by Mrs. Nanasi. Approved.

Mr. Haughton made a motion to ratify the Union Contract Terms as presented by the chairs of the Personnel Committee, seconded by Mrs. Nanasi. Approved.

Mr. Haughton announced that it has come to our unfortunate attention that Mrs. Edone will no longer be in the school district by the end of the school year, June 20, 2024. Mrs. Edone will not be at our next Library Board meetings, but the trustees want to acknowledge all of the great work she has done for our district and as our school liaison. It is a loss and Mrs. Edone's work is appreciated by the Library Board and wish her well in her future endeavors.

## **Adjournment**

At 8:10pm, Mr. Pazant made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Haughton. Unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 17, 2024, 7:30pm, Directors Office