

# TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee  
Thursday, August 16, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom

## DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee (“Committee”) was held on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Present at the meeting were: Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee Chair/Trustee Evelyn Arana Ortiz, Committee Members: Priscilla Foley, Christina Jones, and Elizabeth T. Nagarajah. Jacqueline Johnson was absent.

Also present: Diana Preusser, Assistant Neighborhood Services/Branches Manager, Candelaria Silva-Collins, Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Program Manager and Pamela Carver, Clerk of the Board. The meeting was also streamed via Zoom for the public.

The meeting convened at 8:33 AM. Evelyn Arana Ortiz presided and read the Trustees reaffirmation statement. The Clerk reminded participants that the meeting was being recorded and outlined the process for public comment. She took a roll call and determined there was a quorum present.

The first matter of business was approving the meeting minutes from March 21, 2024 which were approved. Christina Jones was introduced as the Interim Roxbury Branch Librarian. The Clerk reminded participants that the meeting was being recorded and outlined the process for public comment. Ms. Arana Ortiz introduced Christina Jones as the Interim Branch Librarian.

The committee reviewed the FY25 budget expenditure of 107,924.52. It was noted that the budget carryover was \$10K less than the report reflected due to a late invoice, for a corrected carryover balance of \$25,532.69. The discussion included the extension of Candelaria Collins-Silva's contract and proposing a salary increase from \$41K by 2%. The final amount of her contract must be confirmed by the Finance Department. A vote was taken and approved Ms. Silva-Collins' contract.

A recommendation to issue an RFP for the program manager position due to the lack of one in over 10 years. A follow-up meeting to discuss this will be scheduled for early in the new year.

Candelaria Silva-Collins provided updates on the FY24 programs, highlighting successful events such as the Roxbury Concert Series and the Mother's Day Family Sew Camp.

Silva-Collins outlined the RFP Timeline for FY25. She indicated there were 34 proposals from 29 applicants. The committee reviewed and had a robust discussion on each of the proposals. They voted on the following proposals:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Organization or Individual</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
<b>Iris Evans</b>	Individual	Movers and Makers	Hands-on art activities led by 2 artists with movement	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>Leslie R. English</b>	Individual	Sewing 101	Three sewing one-session Boot Camps	<b>\$7,939.25</b>
<b>S. Matt Read</b>	Boston Comic Arts Foundation	Roxbury Comics Camp	Four-day Tween Cartooning Workshop Series	<b>\$7,500.00</b>
<b>Carlos Vargas</b>	Individual	Roxbury Concert Series	Four concerts featuring classical, jazz, and international music	<b>\$6,000.00</b>

<b>Carlos Vargas</b>	Individual	Piano classes for children	Fundamentals of music and piano playing to	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>John Kordalewski</b>	Individual	Makanda Project Concerts	Two concerts (Fall 2024, Spring 2025)	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
<b>Michelle Coleman</b>	Individual	Chair Yoga	Ashtanga & Chair Yoga	<b>5,000.00</b>
<b>Carole Walton</b>	The American City Coalition	The Greater Roxbury Book Fair	Roxbury Book Fair	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>Faith Johnson</b>	Full Circle Arts	Art & Meditation	Art & Meditation workshops (for seniors)	<b>\$4,000.00</b>
<b>Epitheo Evans</b>	Emerged Wellness, LLC	CALM Experience Tween Program	4-day program (Creative Activities for Learning Mindfulness)	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>Cheryl Brown-Greene</b>	Black Gold Doll Club of New England	Exploring Black History & Genealogy Through Dolls	Adults & Seniors	<b>\$2,648.48</b>
<b>Cornell Coley</b>		Afro-Latin Drumming & Culture Workshops	Youth (4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade)	<b>\$3,030.00</b>
<b>Blanca Bonilla</b>	Que Lindo	Latino Pioneers in Boston - 2	General	<b>\$9,000.00</b>
<b>Safiya Sanyika</b>		Kwanzaa Celebration	General/Families	<b>\$2,000.00</b>

The initial amount approved for distribution was \$162,500, which includes \$7,500 allocated for Roxbury. Feedback led to several funding adjustments to fit within budget limits, including reductions and declines for specific proposals. The total granted was \$131,158.13 A slight balance of \$2,300 remains for flexibility.

Ms. Arana Ortiz asked for any New Business. The Committee agreed to meet on November 21, 2024, from 12:30-1:30pm via Zoom.

Ms. Arana Ortiz asked for public comment, for which there was none. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela R. Carver