

# TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee  
Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

## DRAFT MINUTES

A meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee (“Committee”) was held on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom.

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

Also present: Diana Preusser, Assistant Neighborhood Services/Branches Manager, Candelaria Silva-Collins, Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Program Manager and Pamela Carver, Clerk of the Board and Emily Tokarczyk, Chief Financial Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m., Evelyn Arana Ortiz presided. She 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 August 16, 2024 which were approved unanimously.

Ms. Arana Ortiz reviewed the current budget, noting the figure of \$107,316.00.

Priscilla Foley gave brief general updates on the BPL. She reported that all BPL locations, except for Chinatown, are now open on Saturdays. Additionally, all ESL programs are fully subscribed, with plans for future expansion.

Ms. Silva-Collins provided an update on the grantee orientation, with 13 attendees. She discussed the program categories, which include arts, health & well-being, and instruction with a range of ages from children to seniors. She confirmed that all returning programs are continuing, except for Afro-American programming.

Piano classes have started, and the Makanda concert took place in October, with another concert scheduled in November. The first Roxbury concert was held on October 9, and a session from *Latinos in Boston* was also conducted. Upcoming events include the Roxbury Concert Series and the Kwanzaa Celebration.

Ms. Silva-Collins emphasized the administrative efforts involved in encouraging participation in these programs, which includes attending classes, marketing (flyers, website descriptions, and mailing databases), and ongoing interactions with grantees, patrons, and branch staff. Invoicing was also mentioned as part of this process.

There were several grantees who previously held programs in the fall that have moved their schedules to the spring, ensuring a full slate of programming during that period.

Ms. Arana Ortiz called for new business. The Committee agreed to meet on November 21, 2024, from 12:30-1:30pm via Zoom. (*which was subsequently rescheduled to 4.2.25*)

Ms. Arana Ortiz asked for public comment, for which there was none. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Pamela R. Carver*