

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Meeting of the Trustees Governance and Development Committee Friday, May 17, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom

MINUTES

A meeting of the Boston Public Library (“BPL”) Trustees Governance and Development Committee (“Committee”) was held on Friday, May 17, 2024, at 8:30a.m. via Zoom.

Members present at the meeting: Committee Chair, John Hailer, Cheryl Cronin, Christian Westra, and David Leonard. Navjeet Bal and Lynn Wooten were absent. Pamela Carver, Clerk of the Board, staff, and members of the public were also present.

Mr. John Hailer presided and called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. The public was reminded that the meeting was being recorded and the procedure on how to sign up for public comment. Mr. Hailer read the Trustees’ reaffirmation statement. A roll call was taken and determined that there was a quorum. He addressed the review and approval of the Minutes of the May 22, 2023 meeting. With no comments or edits suggested, a motion was duly made, seconded, and approved the minutes via a roll call vote.

Mr. Hailer emphasized the importance of this Committee to introduce potential candidates for the BPL Board and encouraged all of them to send any recommendations for this committee to discuss and review.

Mr. Hailer, with the help of President Leonard, reviewed the recommendations for the 2024-2025 Officers of the Board who would serve for a term of one year. Dr. Ray Liu was nominated to serve in the role as Chair, Evelyn Arana Ortiz is nominated to serve as Vice Chair, and Pamela Carver is nominated to serve as the Clerk, per the recommendation of Mayor Wu.

Mr. Hailer noted this vote to approve this slate of nominations would be recommended to the full board for final approval. A motion was duly made, seconded, and voted to approve by roll call vote.

VOTED: “that, the Trustees Governance and Development Committee recommend the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston approve the nomination for the slate of officers for the Board of Trustees at the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2024 for a 1-year term beginning July 1, 2024 including: Dr. Ray Liu as Chair, Evelyn Arana Ortiz as Vice Chair, and Pamela Carver as Clerk.”

Mr. Hailer continued with an update on the 2024-2025 Board of Trustees and nominations. There were three trustees whose terms ended as of May 1st: Priscilla Douglas, Jeff Hawkins, and Representative Chynah Tyler.

Mr. Hailer said the board was very grateful to our outgoing Chair, Priscilla Douglas. She had a great record, an incredible vision, and was dedicated to the BPL. He thanked her for her service to the Board of Trustees.

He was thrilled to announce that Jeff Hawkins was reappointed for another term of 5 years. He serves as a representative of the BPL Fund, one of our main affiliates and serves on the Finance and Audit Committee.

Mr. Hailer thanked Representative Chynah Tyler for her service to the Board and the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee that represents the Roxbury community. Ms. Tyler has agreed to continue serving on the Board in a holdover role until any decisions are made.

Mr. Hailer announced that Jonathan Lavine was recently appointed by Mayor Wu. He would take Ms. Douglas' seat on the Board. Mr. Hailer provided some background information on Mr. Lavine who was Chair of Bain Capital, a leading global private investment firm in Boston. The Committee commented that he would be a great addition to the Board.

Mr. Hailer made a motion that was duly made, seconded and voted to approve.

VOTED: “that, the Governance and Development Committee of the Public Library of the City of Boston approve the recommendation for the appointments for the Boston Public Library Board of Trustees of Mayor Michelle Wu as discussed and agreed upon.”

There was no new business or public comment. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela R. Carver, Clerk of the Board