Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Springfield City Library Board of Commissioners

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| **Place:** | Central Library Community Room |
| **Date:** | September 6th, 2017 |
| **Attending:** | Commissioners Stephen Cary, Matthew Reilly, Timothy Moriarty, and David Maynard |
| **Absent:** | Lorna Simmons, Krysta Fyntrilakis, and Megan Lunghi |
| **Staff:** | Molly Fogarty, Library Director<br>Jean Canosa Albano, Assistant Director for Public Services<br>Carol Leaders, Library Business Manager<br>Jessica Blasko, Community Relations Coordinator (minute taker) |
| Guest: | Matthew Blumenfeld, Capital Campaign Director |
| **Call to order:** | Mr. Cary called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. |

| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion & Decisions** | **Action Items** |
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| **1. Approval of Minutes from the June 7 , 2017 Library Commission Meetings** | Commissioner Moriarty moved to approve the June 7, 2017 meeting minutes. Commissioner Maynard seconded the motion.<br><br>The motion passed. | |

**2. Capital Campaign Updated: Matthew Blumenfeld**

Mr. Blumenfeld works for Financial Development Agency and is coordinating a $2 million Capital Campaign for the Library Foundation. The funds will help replace the current East Forest Park Branch Library with a new building. He called the construction project "an incredible opportunity to repatriate tax dollars", and highlighted the strong positive impact the new library will have in the East Forest Park neighborhood.

Mr. Blumenfeld spoke about tapping into the community goodwill towards libraries in order to create a successful campaign. A formal campaign announcement will be made on Tuesday, September 12th at 10 a.m.; the official slogan is "Promise Realized".

Mr. Blumenfeld estimated that the first phase of fundraising will be completed by the end of this calendar year, and that the second phase, focusing on major gifts, will begin in 2018. The Capital Campaign is expected to run approximately 12-18 months, although some gift pledges will be 5-year pledges. Naming opportunities, including bricks and rooms within the library, will be available to donors. The actual building, however, will remain the East Forest Park Branch Library. Campaign staff will reach out and make contact with potential donors. Commissioner Reilly suggested having an appreciation event for donors.

Mr. Blumenfeld stated that one of the challenges will be clearly communicating to the public why the East Forest Park Branch is receiving more attention than the East Springfield Branch right now.

**3. Commission Committee Reports**

Commissioner Cary reported that Springfield Public Schools will be hosting an event on November 15th to highlight all the school staff who are also authors.

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| **4. Teen Fine Forgiveness Update** | Ms. Canosa Albano reported that the Teen Fine Forgiveness initiative over the summer brought 70 teens back to the library; the library forgave approximately $1200 in late fees. Ms. Canosa Albano shared anecdotes about parents and teens who were very happy with the program.<br>Commissioner Reilly suggested exploring a way to see if the participating teens rack up fines again.<br>Commissioner Maynard calculated that the library forgave an average of $17 in late fees per teen, and commented that he thinks that's more than worth it to bring teens back in.<br>Ms. Canosa Albano asked for permission to continue the program in some way. Commissioner Cary stated "The Library Commission invites Springfield City Library staff to pursue creative options & reach out to SPS and others to address teen fine forgiveness & improve access for teens to library services". Commissioner Moriarty moved to grant permission. Commissioner Reilly seconded the motion.<br><br>The motion passed. |
| **5. Chairman's Report** | Nothing to report. |

**6. Director's Report**

Ms. Fogarty reported:

- The library won an MBLC construction grant for $4.9 million in July. The upcoming City Council meeting on September 11th will decide the City's bond authorization to fund the new East Forest Park Branch; the figure is expected to be $9.5 million. Architect Stewart Roberts is working on design development, and the earliest the groundbreaking could happen would be next fall.
- The library was awarded two LSTA grants: one for "Mind in the Making" at the Indian Orchard Branch, and one for "Citizenship Corners" with Library Express at Pine Point and the Read/Write/Now Adult Literacy Program.
- The library was awarded an Urban Libraries Council honorable mention for the "Planting the Seed" program at the Mason Square Branch. Reference Librarian Ellen Sulzycki will be traveling to Minneapolis to receive the award.
- Construction bids for repairs to the Central Library were made; the Kronenberger company has won the bid.
- The Mason Square Branch Reading Garden project, funded by the Lowe's grant, is ongoing.
- Furniture for the East Springfield Branch has been ordered and is on the way.
- Options are being explored to restore the ceiling and make repairs and improvements to the Community Room at the Forest Park Branch.
- Many branches hosted Eclipse Parties on August 21st. Well over 1000 people collectively attended these programs.
- The Civic and Community Engagement Team hosted a very successful Candidate Meet & Greet on August 29th. Most candidates were able to participate, and approximately 225 people attended.
- On Saturday September 9th the Sixteen Acres Branch will hold a special event to unveil a new painted mural in its Community Room.
- One Saturday, September 16th, The Central Library will host an Author Fair.

**7. Other Business**

In regards to the new East Forest Park Branch Library, Commissioner Maynard suggested partnering with Starbucks or another coffee shop chain to run the coffee shop in the lobby of the new building. Ms. Fogarty agreed and stated that it would likely be among the options explored.

**8. Executive Session** Not necessary.

**9. Adjournment:** Commissioner Cary adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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Lorna Simmons, *Secretary*