



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

Place: East Forest Park Branch Library

Date: January 3rd, 2018

Attending: Commissioners Matthew Reilly, Krysta Fyntrilakis, Megan Lunghi, Timothy Moriarty, and David Maynard

Absent: Stephen Cary

Staff: Molly Fogarty, Library Director
Jean Canosa Albano, Assistant Director for Public Services
Jessica Blasko, Community Relations Coordinator (minute taker)

Call to order: Ms. Fyntrilakis called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Agenda Item	Discussion & Decisions	Action Items
1. Approval of Minutes from the December 6 , 2017 Library Commission Meetings	<p>Commissioner Moriarty moved to approve the December 6, 2017 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lunghi seconded the motion.</p> <p><u>The motion passed.</u></p>	

2. Barbara Garvey – Overview of the Library Foundation

Ms. Garvey, current Vice President of the Springfield Library Foundation (SLF), gave an oral history of the formation of the SLF and the work the group does. For many decades, the Springfield Library system was part of the Springfield Museum & Library Association. The Association made plans to close some of the library branches and sold the Mason Square branch, which upset the Springfield community. Springfield residents petitioned the City Council to have the City take over the management of the libraries, A Library Department was created on July 1, 2003. The problem remained that the Library's endowments had to be separated from the Springfield Museums. Charlie Ryan and Emily Bader started the SLF, a private, nonprofit group, to protect bequests made to the Library. Ms. Garvey stressed the enormous amount of work by Emily Bader going through decades of records to provide the legal paperwork necessary to prove ownership of the library's bequests and endowments.



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

The legal dispute with the Springfield Museums finally ended in 2017.

Ms. Garvey mentioned Annie Curran, one of the most famous donors to the Springfield City Library, who left \$1 million to the Mason Square Branch in the 1950s. Her generosity allowed the Mason Square Branch to be built and supports that location's services to this day.

**3. Matt Blumenfeld,
Capital Campaign
Update**

Mr. Blumenfeld stated that he had met with the Community Foundation of Western Mass. earlier in the day about developing a planned giving program to be rolled out after the Capital Campaign is further along.

Mr. Blumenfeld also shared the newly printed official Campaign brochure, designed by TSM and featuring photos of local library users.

Mr. Blumenfeld stated that two phases of the Capital Campaign, the Friends & Family phase and the Community Challenge phase, are both about to launch. 15 volunteers have been recruited to assist with the Community Challenge phase. Mr. Blumenfeld has also just submitted a donor proposal to American Outdoor Brands and will soon be submitting another proposal to the Beveridge Foundation.

**4. Approval of Naming
Opportunities for the
New East Forest Park
Branch – Vote Needed**

Mr. Blumenfeld shared a list of naming opportunities for furniture, fixtures, and spaces regarding the new East Forest Park Branch Library. Commissioner Moriarty moved to accept the naming opportunities. Commissioner Maynard seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

**5. Commission
Committee Reports**

Nothing to report.

6. Chairman's Report

Nothing to report.



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Springfield City Library Board of Commissioners**

7. Director's Report

Ms. Fogarty reported:

- December was a work-intensive month for staff in terms of the Capital Campaign. Ms. Fogarty has been meeting with the architect every two weeks to review the design and changes. A cost estimate will be coming in late January or early February.
- Interior repairs to the Central Library begin Thursday, January 4th.
- Ms. Fogarty will be meeting with Pat Sullivan tomorrow, January 4th, at the Forest Park branch to review planned renovations and repairs.
- The East Springfield phase 2 building/repair projects are waiting for the City to start, specifically replacing the carpets and putting a bathroom on the main floor.
- Ms. Canosa Albano reported that the Library will most likely do another version of the Teen Fine Forgiveness program again since it seemed more than worth it to get teens back in the library.
- Ms. Canosa Albano reported that the 2018 Valley Gives fundraising initiative, run by the Community Foundation of Western Mass., will be held on Tuesday, May 1st. After that, the Community Foundation will be moving to a year-round "Valley Gives 360" model, supporting local fundraising.

6. Other Business

Commissioner Fyntrilakis expressed how impressed she was with the Library's printed event guide and program offerings, especially the upcoming Passport program offered jointly with the United States Postal Service.

7. Executive Session

Not necessary.

8. Adjournment:

Commissioner Fyntrilakis adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Lorna Simmons, *Secretary*