



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

**Place:** Central Library Community Room

**Date:** May 2, 2018

**Attending:** Commissioners Stephen Cary, Matthew Reilly, Krysta Fyntrilakis, Timothy Moriarty

**Absent:** David Maynard, Megan Lunghi

**Staff:** Molly Fogarty, Library Director  
Jean Canosa Albano, Assistant Director for Public Services  
Carol Leaders, Business Manager (minute taker)  
Alison Messier, Reference Librarian at the Central Library

**Call to order:** Mr. Cary called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion &amp; Decisions</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
<b>1. Approval of Minutes from the April 4 , 2018 Library Commission Meetings</b>	Commissioner Fyntrilakis moved to approve the April 4, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Moriarty seconded the motion.  <u>The motion passed.</u>	

<b>2. Alison Messier, Library in Your Mailbox</b>	Ms. Messier reviewed the Library in Your Mailbox (LIYM) program, which she runs out of the Central Library. The library has had the program for many years; it provides a way to mail books, DVDs, etc. to patrons who are homebound or disabled. Alison works with and trains volunteers who pick out books for the program participants and mail them through the US postal service. The program is offered in English, Spanish, Russian, and Vietnamese. The LIYM program currently has 25 participants, mostly seniors, who live in 8 city neighborhoods. The LIYM circulation last year was 465 items. Commissioner Moriarty asked what would need to happen to expand the LIYM program; Ms. Messier replied that she would need more volunteers and time to train them.	
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**3. Commission  
Committee Reports**

Commissioner Fyntrilakis praised the April 17th Sixteen Acres program on high speed rail. She also attended an Outer Belt Civic Association meeting and spoke about the Friends of the Library and the current Capital Campaign, netting a \$100 donation for the Friends.

Commissioner Reilly praised the April 14th Author Fair at the Central Library.

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**4. Chairman's Report**

Commissioner Cary praised a recent (non-library-sponsored) gun safety panel at the Brightwood Branch, in particular its use of technology to instantly translate English speech into Spanish for Spanish-speaking attendees. He also noted that the Brightwood Branch has newly acquired, delightful book bikes, which are to be used for outreach, and suggested we buy branded pennants for them.

Commissioner Cary also spoke about the April 27th staff trip to the newly renovated Boston Public Library. He noted that the building consists of 100 million square feet, underwent an \$80 million renovation, and contains a fantastic business library and multimedia lab.

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**5. Director's Report**

Ms. Fogarty reported:

- Staff have been very busy with the EFP Capital Campaign. Only one architect meeting remains, and the project is expected to go out to bid right on schedule on May 30th. The project is on schedule for a late summer/early fall groundbreaking. Ms. Fogarty is applying for a Community Preservation Grant to fund the children's reading garden, outdoor benches, and pergola at the new branch.
- An "Imagine Your New Library" event is planned for Saturday, June 9th from 10am-12pm at the site of the planned East Forest Park branch. Staff and volunteers will be using colored tape and stakes to mark out the floor plan of the library exactly as it will be in the future. There will also be music, food, and family activities.
- The construction/repairs at the Central Library are now projected to go until approximately August 31st. The work



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- was delayed due to bad weather this winter.
- New furniture has been delivered to the East Springfield Branch; the new bathroom was just completed; new carpet will be installed later this year. A new round of MBLC construction grants is anticipated in 2020 or 2021, and Ms. Fogarty anticipates that the library will apply in order to expand the East Springfield branch building.
  - The Reading Garden project at the Mason Square Branch is ongoing. The paths are complete, and the pergolas will be installed soon.
  - New signage will soon be ordered for the Forest Park Branch (to improve visibility of the accessible entrance) and Library Express at Pine Point (to replace the old signs with the new branding).
  - The library has received level service funding in the City's FY19 budget, though Ms. Fogarty intends to ask for a significant additional amount to replace and upgrade the library system's computers.
  - The SOLE union is currently in bargaining mode.
  - Ms. Canosa Albano shared that the City is asking all departments to make a plan to serve the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) population in Springfield. She has drafted a plan for the library, which is expected to be finalized soon.
  - The Central Library will be bringing an intern on board over the summer through the Public Library Association (PLA) Inclusive Internship Initiative. The intern is a former volunteer from the East Forest Park branch. The PLA program provides funding for the intern and an advisor to travel to Washington DC for special training.
  - The Urban Library Council recently opened this year's award nominations.
  - Caitlin Kelley, the Mason Square Branch supervisor, was recently named on BusinessWest's "40 Under 40" list.
  - Ms. Canosa Albano reported that the United Way, along with local partners (including the library) will be taking over the Reading Success by 4th Grade initiative. The UW will be funding a staff member to oversee it, who will work out of an office in the Central Library.
  - The Friends of the Library raised a little over \$2000 on the May 1st Valley Gives Day.



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**6. Other Business**

Commissioner Cary said that he would approach the Mayor's office about appointing a Library Commissioner to replace Lorna Simmons. He also congratulated Ms. Fogarty on her 40th anniversary of working for the Springfield City Library.

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**7. Executive Session**

Not necessary.

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**8. Adjournment:**

Commissioner Cary adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

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, *Secretary*