



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

**Place:** Central Library Community Room

**Date:** September 5, 2018

**Attending:** Commissioners Stephen Cary, Matthew Reilly, David Maynard,

**Absent:** Krysta Fyntrilakis, Meghan Lunghi, Timothy Moriarty

**Staff:** Molly Fogarty, Library Director  
Jean Canosa Albano, Assistant Director for Public Services  
Carol Leaders, Business Manager (minute taker)  
Ed Lonergan, Adult & Youth Information Services Supervisor

**Call to order:** Mr. Cary called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion &amp; Decisions</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
<b>1. Approval of Minutes from the June 6 , 2018 Library Commission Meeting</b>	Minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.	
<b>2. Ed Lonergan, Central Library Historical Background</b>	Mr. Lonergan spoke about how the public library began in the 1850's. In 1857 the City Library Association in Springfield raised funds to build the original library. By the end of the 19 century, the city tripled in size and the city needed to build a new library. Andrew Carnegie matched what the City raised to not only build a new Central Library, but also had enough funds to build the Forest Park, Indian Orchard and the Memorial Square branches. The current central library building opened in January 1912.	
<b>3. Commission Committee Reports</b>	N/A	
<b>4. Chairman's Report</b>	Mr. Cary praised Jessica Blasko for her assistance with editing a video that was used during a presentation to a potential donor for the Library Foundation Capital Campaign. 1. The Campaign has now raised just under \$1.05 million. We are \$950,000 away from our \$2 million goal.	



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2. The most recent highlight has been a very generous \$100,000 commitment from the Chicopee Savings Foundation, which we will announce publicly at the end of September or early October.
  3. The campaign goal will be challenging to meet – we need many pledges in the \$1,000 - \$10,000 range – but those type of commitments should be attainable from many in the community. The five year pledge period is key.
  4. The \$250,000 challenge grant issued by the Library Foundation is around the halfway mark. We would like to fully meet that challenge by ground breaking, so if you haven't yet returned your pledge card, please do so. All individual and family pledges are eligible for the challenge. A big sign about the challenge is up on the site of the new library.
  5. The East Forest Park Groundbreaking Ceremony is scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2018 at 10:30 am at 136 Surrey Road. If there are any potential donors that Commissioners would like to have invited, please let the campaign office know.
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**5. Director's Report**

Ms. Fogarty reported:

- The Capital Campaign Steering Committee received a \$13,000 grant from the Community Foundation to market Planned Giving Opportunities. Materials were designed by TSM Design.
- The next phase of fundraising will be directed toward larger corporations.
- The construction bids came in for the East Forest Park branch library and the contract was awarded to W. J. Mountford, Inc. Construction should take approximately 14 months.
- Ms. Fogarty and Mr. Hatchett, Capital Assets, gave a presentation to the Community Preservation Committee with regards to the grant application to fund the Community Reading Garden and the Children's Story Garden at the new East Forest Park Branch.
- Johnson Roberts Associates, Inc., Architects for the new branch will schedule a presentation at Mary Dryden School for the students.
- The Central Library renovations are taking much longer



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than anticipated due to unforeseen problems. Mostly because the building is over 100 years old.

- An event with Congressman Neal is being scheduled for Friday, April 5, 2019.
- The interior upgrades to the East Springfield Branch continue with the final phase of a new service desk to be delivered soon.
- The Mason Square community garden space now has 2 pergolas; sundial and a message board. Plantings will begin in two weeks.
- Still in the early planning stage to deal with new restrooms for the public on the main floor of the Forest Park Branch.

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**6. Other Business**

Mr. Maynard requested the Library hold a program to promote the history/story of how Christopher Columbus reconnected the continents together.

The Read/Write/Now program received the \$120,000 transition grant to fund the program to March 2019. The Library Department and the City Law Department are in the process of appealing the decision by DESI to not continue funding. The hearing is scheduled for Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Fogarty distributed a draft of the 3D Printer policy to look at and discuss at the October 3 Commission Meeting.

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**7. Executive Session**

Not necessary.

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**8. Adjournment:**

Chair, Stephen Cary adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

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, *Secretary*