



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

**Place:** Central Library Community Room

**Date:** November 7, 2018

**Attending:** Commissioners Stephen Cary, Matthew Reilly, Meghan Lunghi, and David Maynard

**Absent:** Krysta Fyntrilakis and Timothy Moriarty

**Staff:** Molly Fogarty, Library Director  
Jean Canosa Albano, Assistant Director for Public Services  
Jessica Blasko, Community Relations Coordinator (minute taker)  
Linda Grodofsky, East Forest Park Branch Library Supervisor

**Call to order:** Mr. Cary called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Agenda Item	Discussion & Decisions	Action Items
<p><b>1. Approval of Minutes from the June 6 , 2018, September 5, 2018, and October 3, 2018 Library Commission Meetings</b></p>	<p>Commissioner Reilly moved to approve the June 6, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lunghi seconded the motion. <b>The motion passed.</b></p> <p>Commissioner Lunghi noted that he name was misspelled on the September 5, 2018 minutes. Commissioner Maynard, noted that comments recorded under “Other Business” were not recorded accurately. The minutes were amended to reflect the proper spelling of Commissioner Lunghi’s name and to say “Mr. Maynard requested the Library hold additional history-related programs.” Commissioner Reilly moved to approve the amended minutes. Commissioner Maynard seconded the motion. <b>The motion passed.</b></p> <p>Commissioner Reilly moved to approve the October 3, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lunghi seconded the motion. <b>The motion passed.</b></p>	
<p><b>2. Discussion on Veteran’s Overdue Fines</b></p>	<p>City of Springfield Veterans Director Tom Belton spoke to the commission and asked that a plan be put in place to offer fine amnesty for veterans since many of them are economically disadvantaged. He clarified that it would only apply to veterans who were honorably discharged and who had the proper paperwork to show the library.</p>	



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Ms. Fogarty gave a counter-proposal, which is that the library hold a special fine forgiveness week in honor of Veterans Day, that both veterans and the general public could take advantage of. She noted that it would run from November 13-18, and would apply only to late fees on Springfield City Library items. Replacement card fees would also be waived during this week.

Commissioner Lunghi supported the idea, noting that the library should remove as many barriers as possible.

Commissioner Maynard asked how much money is collected in fines each year; Ms. Fogarty replied that she believes it's around \$48,000 annually, but that the amount includes payments for lost and damaged books, and so does not reflect the amount that is just late fees. Ms. Fogarty stated that at the next meeting, she would like to share data with the Commissioners about other libraries that have decided to eliminate late fees.

Commissioner Maynard moved to approve a fine forgiveness week in honor Veterans Day. Commissioner Reilly seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

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**3. Linda Grodofsky,  
Innovative  
Programming at the  
East Forest Park  
Branch Library**

Ms. Grodofsky noted that she has worked at nearly every Springfield library location and has experience with many different library programs. She has worked at the East Forest Park branch for 6 years, and as a result has had to work with staff to find some creative solutions for programming since the current location has extremely limited space. This includes reconfiguring the children's area to hold a large crowd, spreading out multiple programs to different seating areas in the library, holding programs outside in the parking lot (such as Trunk or Treat and when fire trucks visit), and partnering with Nathan Bill's Bar and Restaurant to hold concerts in their outdoor patio. Ms. Grodofsky mentioned a number of recent successful programs, such as visits from Forest Park Zoo on the Go, the "What's Cooking?" series, and a program with Agawam Paranormal. The next upcoming program is an author talk with P. Ann Pieroway at 6 p.m. on November 14, about Mr. Pieroway's book "Taste and Tales of Massachusetts".

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<b>4. Commission Committee Reports</b>	N/A
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<b>5. Chairman's Report</b>	<p>Commissioner Cary praised the October 15th groundbreaking ceremony for the new East Forest Park Branch Library, saying that there was a great turnout despite the weather and great pro-library energy from attending politicians. Commissioner Lungi also praised the VR goggles available at the event, which allowed attendees to virtually “visit” the new library. Commissioner Cary also noted that a recent fundraising meeting with MGM Springfield went very well.</p>
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<b>6. Director's Report</b>	<p>Ms. Fogarty reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• She will attend an East Forest Park Civic Association meeting on November 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Michael's cafeteria to give a “sneak peek” at the new East Forest Park Branch Library.</li><li>• The City lost the appeal to DESE to reverse the decision to stop funding the library's Read/Write/Now program. The City will supply \$60,000 so that the program can continue this year, and Ms. Fogarty will seek out funding options so that the program can run in the future.</li><li>• Construction on the new East Forest Park Branch Library has begun. Ms. Fogarty stated that MBLC representatives were very impressed with the groundbreaking ceremony and big showing of community support. Ms. Fogarty is now working on furniture selection for the new branch. She, Ms. Albano, Ms. Blasko, and Mary Frederick visited the South Hadley library on October 10th to view their furniture selections.</li><li>• The construction and building repairs at the Central Library continue to be delayed by issues with suppliers.</li><li>• Visitation is expected to decrease at the Forest Park branch once the new East Forest Park location opens. Commissioner Maynard asked whether visitation numbers overall have increased or decreased. Ms. Fogarty replied that visitation numbers have temporarily dropped at the Central Library due to the building construction, but that the numbers for the system overall have increased.</li><li>• Ms. Blasko's last day will be Tuesday, November 13th.</li></ul>
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**7. Other Business -  
Vote on 3D printer  
policy**

Commissioner Maynard asked why both library staff and volunteers are listed as possible persons in charge on the 3D printing policy. Commissioner Cary responded that there are non-library volunteers and professionals who are sometimes more knowledgeable about 3D printing than staff, and the library might have people like this overseeing the use of the library's 3D printers when staff are not available.

The word "coaches" was removed, and "library staff and volunteers" was amended to "designated library staff and volunteers."

Commissioner Lunghi moved to accept the new 3D printing policy. Commissioner Reilly seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

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**8. Executive Session**

Not necessary.

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**9. Adjournment:**

Chair, Stephen Cary adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

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, *Secretary*