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**Place:** Central Library Community Room

**Date:** April 3, 2024

**Attending:** Stephen Cary, Tim Moriarty, Krysta Fyntrilakis, Matthew Reilly

**Absent:** David Maynard, Meghan Lunghi, Rachel Sanders

**Staff:**  Molly Fogarty, Library Director

Jean Canosa Albano, Assistant Director

Aieshya Jackson, Business Manager

Jamillah Medina Nova, Community Relations Coordinator

Raz Nesher, Reference Librarian

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Commissioner Cary

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| 1. Presentation : Raz Nesher, Reference Librarian Central Library | Raz Nesher, who began work with Springfield City Library in July of 2023, talked about their hand in current music programming. They created a relationship with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and started an attraction pass for library patrons to attend the 2023-2024 season for free with library cards. Nesher organized the purchase of four, family 4-packs to each show of the symphony and 128 people were able to visit for free just for having their library card. The library sold out both times amongst patrons.  Nesher worked with Springfield Symphony Orchestra’s Director of Education, Caitlin Meyer on this project and upcoming ones as well.  They have plans to collaborate on an Instrument petting zoo for adults in the Central Library rotunda this fall just before the premier concert season. This will be open to all, but geared toward adults to try new instruments.  This will be part of a symphony weekend at the library.  Nesher has also been working with Elizabeth McKinstry to schedule ukulele lessons again this summer as well as with Talin Linina to work on an accordion story time.  Early stage programming includes– a huge collection of sheet music they are moving with hopes of creating some databases and graphic work to make it more accessible.  There will soon be a vinyl records collection in the next few months, which is also exciting, and what patrons have been asking for. They are looking forward to starting a record club, which is similar to book clubs.  The library is able to offer these attractions passes and programming because of the Rose Smith Fund.  Following Nesher’s presentation there was a conversation about marketing in multiple languages to reach further into the community and offer the opportunities to more people. |  |
| **2.** **Approval of Minutes from the March 6,2024 Library Commission Meeting** | Commissioner Tim Moriarty moves to accept minutes with the edit that it reflects Commissioner Fyntrilakis was present via OWL hybrid recording system. Commissioner Reilly seconds the motion. All in favor. Minutes Passed. |  |
| **3. Commission Committee Reports** | Subcommittee update that there is movement for the State St. pedestrian crosswalk project. The plans are to create a raised HAWK system style sidewalk. The RFP (request for proposal) will be submitted soon. |  |
| **4. Chairman’s Report** | Commissioner Cary shares he met with Jamillah Medina Nova about creating new videos about each branch including community leaders and highlighting different parts of the library. These will help kick off National Library Week and support the new library card registration campaign. |  |
| **5. Director’s Report** | Director Fogarty shares about the budget hearing process. She also explains how tight the funding is this year based on lower than anticipated revenues for the State, which affects increases in Local Aid. There has also been a hiring freeze for state employees issued by the Governor.  The Director’s office submitted the Library capital plan for the City of Springfield Capital improvement Committee. They met with the planning committee on March 20th and discussed that the biggest projects are for the Carnegie buildings. Looking at about $11 million in Central library and $695k for Forest Park Branch, and other projects amongst other branches. Mason Square vestibule needs to be repaired.  Indian Orchard has received CDBG funding to replace the lift. The East Springfield Construction Grant budget is estimated at $6 million estimated for a renovation and addition.. Working on the construction grant daily.  Friday April 12th, will be the Mayor’s visit for National Library Week at East Springfield Branch during the Knot Just Knitters program. |  |
| **6. New/ Other Business-** | Commissioner Fyntrilakis acknowledges the passing of Tricia Labroad who worked with Springfield City Library at the East Springfield Branch for over 30 years. The library staff and the East Springfield Neighborhood plan to honor her in some way when the new building is constructed.  She also asked about adding library directional signage for the Central Library.  There is a plan in place to look into that with DPW and see what the process would be to get them installed.  She would also like to attend an all-staff meeting to meet new staff. |  |
| **7. Executive Session** | Not Needed |  |
| **8. Adjournment** | **6:31 PM** |

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, *Secretary*