ALL YOURS SPRINGFIELD CITY LIBRARY JUST ASK

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

Place:	Zoom Meeting
Date:	October 2, 2024
Attending:	Stephen Cary, Krysta Fyntrilakis, Rachel Sanders, Meghan Lunghi, Tim Moriarty,
Absent:	David Maynard, Matthew Reilly,
Staff:	Molly Fogarty, Library Director Jean Canosa Albano, Assistant Director Aieshya Jackson, Business Manager Jamillah Medina Nova, Community Relations Coordinator Talin Linina, Children's Services Supervisor
Call to order:	Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Commissioner Cary

1. Presentation : Talin Linina, Children's Services Supervisor	Talin Linina gave a detailed rundown on how the children's room is set up, the programs they are running, the design of the room for accessibility and parental/ adult engagement with children, creating a welcoming atmosphere for all, encouraging parent engagement in all activities, and the inclusion of teen and English language learner involvement. Commissioner Cary applauds the efforts of inclusion while Commissioner Fyntrilakis says everything sounds fantastic, especially the kitchen, play area for children, and the hopscotch setup. She commends them on doing a great job and thanks them for all they do. Commissioner Lunghi says it's so exciting to hear about all the things that are happening and the different approaches they are taking. She knows it can be intimidating for folx to go into the children's rooms so what they are doing to break down the barriers is great- kudos. Commissioner Moriarty asks about multilingual signage, programs to which Linina responds they speak Russian fluently so if there is an interest in anything in Russian they will be happy to host. They are also learning Spanish and American Sign Language to better connect with babies, toddlers and parents during storytimes. Commissioner Moriarty makes a point that refugee families need more languages as well and encourages reaching out to Russian communities for programming.
2. Approval of Minutes from the June 5, 2024 and September 4, 2024 Library Commission Meetings	June 5, 2024 - Commissioner Moriarty moves to accept minutes. Commissioner Sanders seconds the motion. Roll Call. All in favor. Minutes Passed. September 4, 2024- Commissioner Fyntrilakis moves to accept minutes. Commissioner Lunghi seconds the motion. Roll Call. Commissioner Moriarty abstains. All others in favor. Minutes Passed.

3. Commission Committee Reports	
4. Chairman's Report	Commissioner Cary thanks Commissioners Moriarty and Sanders for attending the recent staff brunch hosted by The Springfield Library Foundation. Every branch left with a $1,000 check. It was a wonderful, neutral location and the food was amazing. He shares a video of the sidewalk construction that has started and a quick video created by Josue of Focus Springfield along with Jamillah Medina Nova. Commissioner Moriarty adds in a welcomed point to add the word "FREE" to the videos and to offer multiple languages. Commissioner Fyntrilakis hopes for lots of library card sign ups and also brings up a new book drop, to which Director Fogarty says there is a new one in the works.
5. Director's Report	Director Fogarty shares more about the beautiful brunch and gives kudos to Violette Giammarino for her efforts in planning the whole thing. She said it was great to do in a neutral space and for staff to leave with an understanding of what the foundation does. Each department will use the $1,000 for something staff wants. Mayor Sarno came to do the opening remarks and Commissioner Cary was a great emcee. There was sad news to report, Janet Kelly the former Read Write Now manager who retired 2 years ago passed away suddenly. There is a new update on East Springfield construction grant. The 1st Thursday meeting isny happening due to the MTA Community zoning act plans that are taking precedence. MBLC commissioners are waiting to make the announcement to avoid giving an award to a community that isn't in compliance. There won't be any news until possibly January. Two awards will be given to applicants that weren't a part of the zoning act. The New AV system installations have begun. They will be done next week then the company will come back to commission and train staff. Last weekend the local author fair and book sale was really well attended and the news came. This coming weekend the symphony weekend with adult musical petting zoo and return of Rotunda Rhythms with a quarter will take place. All branches currently have free tickets for people to check out. BizGrow will be happening on October 10th to help small businesses with legal advice which has lots of news coverage already and is expected to be well attended. Jean Canosa Albano had an exciting program, "An evening with Esmeralda Santiago." It was a great turnout for Hispanic Heritage month with an overwhelming and joyous response. About 80 people attended. Santiago visited Brightwood 20 years ago with her first memoir, "When I Was Puerto Rican." A book discussion club will follow in the upcoming weeks. Commissioner Moriarty in regards to Janet Kelly- Will we be doing something special, a plaque or mayoral certificate to honor her years in helping the immigrant community? Director Fogarty responds that the Mayor did a proclamation when she retired, but it will be nice to work on something additional for the family. She will share the memorial/celebration of life info as well as Kelly's husband's contact info. Assistant Director Canosa Albano will send the announcement.

	Director Fogarty also thanks Aieshya Jackson for submitting the state aide application for $613,775 which is up from $200k.
6. New/ Other Business-	Commissioner Fyntrilakis expresses that Reggie Wilson had a wonderful garden club program at East Springfield with about 116 people. She found out we can get free trees from the city and Marshall Roy park planted multiple fruit trees. She wondered if the library could plant these kind of trees on its property.
7. Public Comment	There was one person from the public that attended the meeting, but when the time for public comment came, they did not appear on camera or microphone to make a comment.
8. Executive Session	Not Needed
9. Adjournment	**6:30 PM**

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, *Secretary*