

Cranbury Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.
Gambino Room, Cranbury Public Library

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT Pursuant to provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the Public Library as follows: December 20, 2018 notice for this meeting was sent to the Cranbury Press, Home News Tribune, Township Clerk and posted in the Public Library.

2. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES –

Kirstie S. Venanzi, President – present	Ira Negin – present
Andre Mento, Vice-President – present	David Carroll - present
Dave Fletcher, Treasurer and Secretary – present	Fred Dennehy – present
Dan Mulligan, Township Committee – absent	Patty Thomsson - present
Amy Dixon, Chief School Administrator’s Representative – present	

Also to be present:

Marilynn Mullen, Director – present

Eman El-Badawi – present

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Action on the minutes of the October 10 and November 7 meetings

B. Action on Bills List for month ending 10/31/2019

Motion to approve consent agenda: Ira Second: Andre Approved

4. TREASURER’S REPORT:

A. Report - Budget and Operating Status as of 10/31/2019

Very strong balance sheet. All expense accounts are under budget through October.

5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Kirstie Venanzi

Kirstie mentioned that either she or Patty will be attending Township Committee meetings through the rest of the year.

Kirstie discussed two books: *Bowling Alone* by Robert Putnam and *Palaces for the People* by Eric Klinenberg. “Palaces for the People” is a reference to Andrew Carnegie and his philanthropic donations of libraries in America. She attended a session at ALA where Eric Klinenberg spoke about his book. He was talking about the need for shared spaces such as libraries, parks, schools and churches. She read a passage which she will copy for the Board. She mentioned you could hear Mr. Klinenberg on a Tedx Talk on Youtube.

6. DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Marilynn Mullen - see attached

7. TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST REPORT: Marilynn Mullen – see attached

8. REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS:

A. Mayor’s report: Dan Mulligan - None

B. Chief School Administrator’s Representative: Amy Dixon - none

9. TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Personnel: Chair–Patty Thomsson, Kirstie Venanzi, David Carroll

Patty spoke about the evaluation process for the director. The updated director’s job description was given to all Board members along with an evaluation form. She requested forms be filled out and emailed to her before December 1. She will collate and summarize the results. At the December Board meeting there will be a closed session to discuss the evaluation.

B. Finance: Chair- Dave Fletcher, Andre Mento, Ira Negin, David Carroll

The Finance committee will meet next week to go over the 2020 budget.

C. Policy and Planning: Chair– Ira Negin, Kirstie Venanzi, Patty Thomsson, Fred Dennehy - none

D. Nomination and Elections: Chair– Andre Mento, Dave Fletcher, Dan Mulligan

Ira and Fred’s terms expire at the end of the year.

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E. Special - Facilities Development/Task Force: Chair – Kirstie Venanzi, Andre Mento, David Fletcher, Fred Dennehy -waiting on NJCBA application.

F. Special – Public Relations Committee: Chair –Andre Mento, Amy Dixon, David Carroll, Patty Thomsson

The committee will meet to work on upcoming PR.

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act

The comments and responses have been posted. The updated regulations are listed in the NJ register. Marilyn covered the responses to her comments in her director's report.

B. 2020 Library Calendar

Marilynn proposed closing dates for 2020. She presented information on other libraries holiday schedules and showed statistics of library use on holiday weekends.

Motion to approve calendar: Dave Second: Andre Approved

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Email from the state saying that the application for the grant funds will be out soon. Training will be scheduled in December.

13. OPEN DISCUSSION PERIOD and/or PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Kirstie read the letter she sent to Mary Chute. It was emailed and sent certified mail.

B. Eman mentioned that the library was a controversial topic when she was going door-to-door canvassing for the township committee position. Many had misinformation. She was invited to attend the next PR meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT 8:40