

ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, December 11, 2024
5:15 PM –Central Library

Trustees in Attendance	Trustees not in Attendance	Staff in Attendance
Ms. Adams Mr. Brown Mr. Caplan Ms. De Cuevas Ms. Espenshade Dr. Farmer Ms. Gohn Dr. Jensen Mr. Kaufman Ms. Lasher Dr. Naff Mr. Rosenberg Mr. Scherr	Mr. Boothe Mr. Hillman Ms. Jones-Rodwell Mr. Koff Mr. Miller Ms. Moser Mr. Reid	Ms. Allen Ms. Bangura Ms. Box Mr. Corner Mr. Delaney Mr. Felder Mr. Johnson Ms. Kouwenhoven Mr. Lewis Ms. McCorkell Ms. Monahan Mr. Myers Ms. Nehlawi Mr. Paris-Santana Ms. Reighard Ms. Scheuerman Ms. Sundermann-Zingler Ms. Veeramachaneni Ms. Yost

I. Chair, Christine Espenshade called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM

II. Approval of Minutes of the Wednesday, September 18, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting

A request for a motion was made by Chair, Ms. Christine Espenshade to approve the Minutes of the September 18, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Jamar Brown and seconded by Ms. Sandra Gohn.

*****ACTION: The Board of Trustees approved the minutes with amendments from the Wednesday, September 18, 2024 meeting.*****

III. Ratification of the Actions of the Board of Directors

A request for a motion was made by Chair, Ms. Christine Espenshade to ratify the actions of the Board of Directors at September 18, 2024 meeting. The motion was made by Dr. Mychelle Farmer and seconded by Ms. Sandra Gohn.

*****ACTION: The Board of Trustees ratified the actions of the Board of Directors at the Wednesday, September 18, 2024 meeting.*****

IV. Chair's Remarks

Ms. Espenshade began her remarks by welcoming the board to the meeting and thanking the Board for their attendance and participation at meetings and events. Ms. Espenshade highlighted CEO Mr. Chad Helton's first few months. Ms. Espenshade described how Mr. Helton has been settling in, taking on numerous meetings, and accompanying Dr. Allen Jensen to Annapolis for the Maryland Citizens for Libraries. Ms. Espenshade was excited to announce the kickoff of planning for the upcoming Mr. Pratt Presents Gala. Ms. Espenshade thanked Mr. David Donato and Mr. Jamar Brown for their work on the Mr. Pratt Presents planning committee. Ms. Espenshade noted additional dates for upcoming events including the Black and White Party on January 25th, Book Lovers Breakfast on February 1st, and Mr. Pratt Presents on April 5th.

Ms. Espenshade thanked the 26 board members who have pledged or made their board gifts. She requested that board members contact the Office of Institutional Advancement to make their pledges. Ms. Espenshade requested Dr. Mychelle Farmer and Dr. Allen Jensen to update the Board on their work regarding the Maryland State Library Associate and the Maryland Citizens for Libraries. Dr. Farmer explained that the MSLA had a meeting that morning in order to form an advocacy committee due to the current fiscal situation in the state. Dr. Jensen informed the Board about the productive meeting between the Maryland Citizens for Libraries and CEO Chad Helton.

Ms. Espenshade concluded her remarks by promoting continued attendance for committee and Board meetings. Ms. Espenshade looked forward to January 23rd for an exclusive Board-only tour of the Reginald F. Lewis Museum.

V. Report on City and State Operating Budgets

The City and State Operating Budgets report was included in the Board Book and stands as is.

VI. Public Comment

Mr. David Yaffe, on behalf of Mr. Mark Hart, said hello to the Board and wished everyone a happy holiday.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business; the meeting was adjourned by Chair, Christine Espenshade at 5:32 PM. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 5:15 pm at Central Library.