

ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, December 6, 2023
5:15 PM –Central Library

Trustees in Attendance	Trustees not in Attendance		Staff in Attendance
Ms. Adams Mr. Brown Ms. Espenshade Dr. Farmer Ms. Gohn Dr. Jensen Ms. Jones-Rodwell Mr. Koff Ms. Lasher Ms. Moser Mr. Scherr	Mr. Boothe Mr. Kaufman Mr. Miller Mr. Reid Mr. Rosenberg		Ms. Breck Mr. Clash Mr. Corner Mr. Delaney Ms. Eifenbein Mr. Felder Ms. Graham Ms. Hall Ms. McCorkell Ms. Monahan Ms. Nehlawi Ms. Raabe Ms. Reighard Ms. Reyes Ms. Scheuerman Mr. Williams Ms. Woodland

- I. **Chair, Christine Espenshade called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM**
- II. **Approval of Minutes of the Wednesday, September 20, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting**
*****ACTION: The Board of Trustees approved the minutes from the Wednesday, September 20, 2023 meeting.*****
- III. **Ratification of the Actions of the Board of Directors**
*****ACTION: The Board of Trustees ratified the actions of the Board of Directors at the Wednesday, September 20, 2023 meeting.*****

IV. Chair’s Remarks

Ms. Espenshade began her remarks by welcoming the board to the meeting and informing the room that CEO, Ms. Heidi Daniel will not be able to attend the meeting. Ms. Espenshade instead welcomed Vice President, Ms. Darcell Graham, as the leadership team member who will fill Ms. Daniel’s role for the meeting. Ms. Espenshade was grateful to see people at so many events: especially the 20th Anniversary of the African American Department. Ms. Espenshade thanked

Mr. Joseph Chambliss and the rest of the DIA office for their support in running their first Board meeting. Ms. Espenshade clarified that she'd love to have everyone at author event receptions, but there are often restrictions placed by the author of the number of people who can attend. Ms. Espenshade requested that Board members be respectful of these restrictions and that they will attend public events if there is no more space. Ms. Espenshade called the Board's attention to the new Conflict of Interest Form and requested all members sign and deliver them at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Espenshade updated the Board on the Pratt 150th anniversary book project, informing the Board that the project is being tabled till a date closer to the actual 150th anniversary. Ms. Espenshade thanked Ms. Virginia Adams for her work on the project. Ms. Espenshade called for a few committee updates from various committee chairs in the room. Mr. Bob Nye gave an update on the Finance Committee, thanking the members and Brown Advisory for their work. Dr. Mychelle Farmer presented the findings of the DEI Committee's Board survey. Ms. Patricia Lasher updated the Board on the Compensation Committee's goals and their future plans of evaluation for the CEO, Ms. Heidi Daniel. Ms. Cindi Monahan informed the Board of upcoming events at the Pratt and hoped to see the Board members there.

Ms. Espenshade concluded her remarks by wishing everyone a happy holiday and inviting the Board members to an after-meeting drink at Hotel Indigo.

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. Mark Hart, as president of the Friends of Reisterstown Rd. Branch, thanked CEO, Ms. Heidi Daniel, for the ramp upgrade at the branch. Mr. Hart is looking forward to the annual Reisterstown Branch staff appreciation event and wished Mr. Chambliss a happy birthday. Mr. Hart ended by wishing everyone a happy holiday season and cheering on the Baltimore Ravens.

Mr. David Yaffe requested the EPFL team to publish the Facilities Plan that was spoken about at the June 14th, 2023 Board Meeting. Mr. Yaffe stated that by publishing these plans to the public there would be more cooperation between the library and the community. Mr. Yaffe also requested a clear policy regarding employees and their ability to be members of Friends of the Library organizations' Boards. Mr. Yaffe wished to know if that was a Conflict of Interest.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business; the meeting was adjourned by Chair, Christine Espenshade at 6:04 PM. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 5:15 pm at Central Library.