

**Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes from Board Study Session/Retreat
Friday, September 24, 2021
Main Library, 615 Church Street, Nashville TN 37219
Conference Room 1A – 12:00 noon**

Members Present: Joyce Searcy, Adriana Bialostozky, Kate Ezell, Robert Oermann, Charvis Rand, Keith Simmons, Katy Varney

Library Staff: Kent Oliver, Bernadette Hugan

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Katy Varney called the meeting to order at 12:20 P.M.

II. Metro Ordinance required to be announced at all Board Meetings – Vice Chair, Katy Varney

“Pursuant to the provisions of § 2.68.030 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws, please take notice that decisions of the Nashville Public Library Board may be appealed to the Chancery Court of Davidson County for review under a common law writ of certiorari. Any appeal must be filed within sixty days after entry of a final decision by the Board. Any person or other entity considering an appeal should consult with an attorney to ensure that time and procedural requirements are met.”

III. Library Facilities, Kent Oliver

- Repairs
- Buildings
- Projected capital investment needs
- Advocacy Considerations

It is anticipated facilities will be the most important issue before NPL/Board for next 4 to 5 years.

Metro’s CIB contains 15 NPL items; not yet funded.

Katy asked: If Federal Infrastructure funding passes, perhaps resulting local funds could be used to repair courtyard?

Katy suggested advocacy efforts for capital funds could focus on “Year of the Library.”

Robert suggested raising public awareness about capital needs/roofs.

IV. Donelson Building Project Update, Kent Oliver

The Board received a preliminary design drawing of the building.

Budget will include art in the library.

Completion date either late 2023 or early 2024.

V. Library Service Status, Kent Oliver

Board suggested having Naturalization Ceremony at NPL. Kent will make connection.

Charvis suggested using LinkedIn (other socials) to post direct links to job postings.

Kent will meet with Susan and Sherry to discuss pro-active recruiting.

Charvis suggested having a list of all of NPL's services. Board liked this marketing idea. (Card, brochure)

VI. Special Collections, *Kent Oliver*

Chinedu Amaefula is scheduled to begin October 4, 2021.

VII. Marketing and Communications, *Kent Oliver*

Andrea Fanta will remain with Mayor's Office.

McNeely Brockman will continue to work with marketing team.

VIII. Internal Communication, *Kent Oliver*

Internal Communications will live under marketing/communications manager.

Work toward improving Internal Communications includes:

INK improvements

Virtual Town Halls

Brown Bag converted to Coffee with Kent

Regular all-staff emails

IX. EDI, *Kent Oliver*

Climate survey conducted spring 2021. Sample not large enough; sought more responses.

EDI Committee meets next week. Will identify 3 or 4 objectives to complete instead of broad strategic plan.

Charvis added Susan is doing a good job leading committee.

X. Grants/ARP, *Kent Oliver*

TSLA/IMLS

TSLA/E-Rate

Also requests through metro

XI. Limitless Libraries/Bookmobile, *Kent Oliver*

Funded through Dollar General

Meeting taking place soon; consultant to be hired soon.
Expected to take at least 1 year before a bookmobile will be available

XII. Library Policies, *Kent Oliver*

Revisiting security concerns.

Joyce suggested increasing number of security staff.

Kent will ask Mark for a summary of incident reports.

Kent will explore surveying managers about security.

Keith added any security policy brought to the board should address board member concerns.

XIII. Miscellaneous, *Kent Oliver*

-NPL Means Business

-Junior League

-NAZA

NPL Means Business started this month.

Junior League digitizing project. When project concludes, Archives will retain digitizing equipment purchased by Junior League.

NAZA is in a transitional period. This is an opportunity to expand programs and increase student slots.

XIV. Projected FY23 Budget issues, *Kent Oliver*

Kent will attempt to bring FY23 budget request information before the board in December. Issues for next budget year at this time include capital funding, 4% funds, funding to open Main 2 evenings/week.

XV. NECAT, *Kent Oliver*

NECAT Board is interested in NPL taking on 1 channel. MTSU would collaborate with other educational institutions. NPL taking access channel is not dependent on MTSU taking other 2 channels.

XVI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Bernadette Hugan