

**CITY OF NOVI LIBRARY BOARD  
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING  
July 22, 2021**

**Call to Order by President, Kathy Crawford**

The meeting was held at the Novi Civic Center, Council Chambers, 45175 Ten Mile Road Novi Michigan 48375, and was called to order by Kathy Crawford, President, at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call by Secretary, Brian Bartlett**

1. **Library Board – All members were present and stated their location.**

Kathy Crawford, President

Kat Dooley, Vice- President (absent/excused)

Brian Bartlett, Secretary

Sreeny Cherukuri, Board Member

Tara Michener, Board Member

Geoffrey Wood, Treasurer

Torry Yu, Board Member

**Student Representatives**

Sarah Chang (absent/excused)

Tarun Tangirala (left meeting at 7:38 pm)

**Library Staff**

Julie Farkas, Director

Barbara Cook, Bookkeeper

**Library Attorney**

Tom Schultz

Rosati, Schultz, Joppich & Amtsbuechler

**Approval of Agenda**

Trustee Michener explained to the Trustees that an oversight occurred years ago in 2016 and the Bylaw Committee is not listed in the Bylaws. She explained the options are to move to make the committee a standing committee, recognize current committee as ad-hoc or disband the committee after the current bylaw committee completes its obligations. Trustee Wood added that this could potentially be addressed tonight. Trustee Cherukuri asked if the bylaw committee and the policy committee could be combined since the members are the same. Trustee Michener prefers not to combine the two committees.

A motion was made to approve the Agenda, as amended (see below).

1<sup>st</sup> – Trustee Cherukuri

2<sup>nd</sup> – Trustee Yu

The motion was amended to approve the agenda, with continued discussion of bylaw committee under Matters for Board Action. The maker of the motion and the second agreed to amend the motion.

Roll Call Vote was taken. 6 yes votes. Motion passes unanimously. Trustee Dooley is absent/excused.

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Approve Minutes of:

A. June 24, 2021- Regular Meeting

A motion was made to approve the regular meeting minutes, June 24, 2021

1st- Trustee Yu

2nd- Trustee Wood

Roll Call Vote was taken. 6 yes votes. Motion passes unanimously. Trustee Dooley is absent/excused.

B. June 26, 2021 – Board Retreat

A motion was made to approve the Board Retreat minutes, June 26, 2021

1st- Trustee Cherukuri

2nd- Trustee Wood

Roll Call Vote was taken. 6 yes votes. Motion passes unanimously. Trustee Dooley is absent/excused.

C. July 12, 2021 – OMA Training

A motion was made to approve the OMA Training minutes, July 12, 2021

1st- Trustee Yu

2nd- Trustee Cherukuri

Roll Call Vote was taken. 6 yes votes. Motion passes unanimously. Trustee Dooley is absent/excused.

2. Approve Claims and Warrants of:

A. Accounts 268 and 269 (#604)

A motion was made to approve the claims and warrants (#604).

1<sup>st</sup>- Trustee Wood

2<sup>nd</sup>- Trustee Cherukuri

Roll Call Vote was taken. 6 yes votes. Motion passes unanimously. Trustee Dooley is absent/excused.

### **Presentations**

1. Dana Brataniec, Communications Coordinator: Demonstrations for NPL's new website and Patron Point (new marketing/communications tool) – pages 35-42
2. Tarun Tangirala, Student Representative: TAB Annual Report (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021) and final Student Representative Report for June 2021. –pages 43-49
3. Staff Recognitions for 2021 presented by Director Julie Farkas – page 78  
Above and Beyond Award 2021
  - Eva Sabolcik – Support Services Supervisor
  - Barb Rutkowski – Head of Information Technology
  - April Stevenson- Head of Information Services
  - Maryann Zurmuehlen- Head of Support Services

Customer Service Award 2021

- Dana Brataniec – Communications Coordinator
- Katie Edmiston- Library, Information Services
- Lisa Brinkman- Support Services Shelver
- Mary Robinson- Librarian, Information Services

The Trustees thanked the student representatives for volunteering and wished them well. Trustee Yu asked if the Library is bringing back teen space for this school year. Director Farkas said the plan is to bring back teen space towards the end of September.

### **Public Comment**

President Crawford asked that remarks be limited to those pertaining to matters before the Board, to Board business or policy, or to issues of community concern or interest. While comment upon the action, inaction, or performance of the Board, the Trustees, employees, and consultants is allowed, inappropriate, profane, vulgar, or abusive language and personal attacks will not be tolerated. She asked Citizens to state their first, last name and Novi address.

Betsey Beaudoin, Cranbrooke in Novi, MI.

- Betsey commented that there have been a lot of issues with public trust in regards to the Board and specifically the DEI committee, and having the DEI response session cancelled, so abruptly- with one day notice, furthers those issues. She is disappointed that instead of hosting the response session, as promised, the responses have been put out in writing.
- Betsey commented that only the people who have managed to re-arrange their schedules could attend the Board Meeting, this evening. So there are a bunch of people who already put time in who are not going to even get a response this evening.
- Also, it is disappointing to her that there is nothing from the committee chair in the response and she is curious why someone that is not interested in this work would want to be on the committee, as well as to be the chair. She would really like to see the whole board respond as was promised or to have that listening session response actually occur because putting out the response, in writing, seems unnecessary to her, as the whole point was to have an interactive session.
- Additionally, Betsey feels this could have been handled better and she would really love to see the committee and the board, as a whole, work harder at community trust.

### **Reports**

1. Student Representatives Report  
(Under Presentations above, item 2)
2. President's Report (Kathy Crawford)
  - A. 2019-2022 Strategic Planning Goals – page 50
  - B. 2020-2021 Goals Document Update – (via email- will be provided in August)
  - C. Community Listening Session June 22, 2021: Zoom & Facebook live notes and Zoom chat transcript, provided by Dana Brataniec, Communications Coordinator –pages 51-55
  - D. Library Board Retreat June 26, 2021, Update: Reflection from Dr. Lee Meadow –pages 56-58
  - E. OMA Training presentation slides – July 12, 2021 – pages 59-66

President Crawford's statement is captured below in first person.

A few weeks ago, I prepared a draft of topics that were mentioned frequently in the Listening sessions as well as audience participation.

I asked Board members if they wished to add other topics.

I sent members my draft responses and asked if they had anything to add.

Copies of the Board response to the Listening Session are available tonight and if any Board members wish to add anything we can make revisions within the next month and the final version will be included in the August Board packet. There will still be time for audience members to speak to issues they read in the comments. I am sorry I missed a couple of the comments as Trustee Bartlett mentioned and they will be included in the final copy.

You will not notice comments from every Board member on every topic but that is because they concurred with the draft they were sent.

In as Much as this is a rather lengthy document, I am not going to read it, but will just mention a few things briefly. Probably the most frequently mentioned issue in the Listening sessions and public comment was related to Juneteenth. If you saw last month's Board meeting or looked at the Board minutes, you will have noted that I said that since President Biden made Juneteenth a Federal Holiday, I wanted the Finance Committee to take a look again at our budget to see about the possibility of funding the closure and making it a Holiday with pay. In addition, I asked them to bring forward their recommendation at the July Board (tonight)

The Finance Committee did meet and they discussed a variety of solutions. They cannot make a recommendation this evening because the issue is impacted by the huge unanticipated budget hit that will be incurred by the storm power outage 6/24 that affected all of our technology hardware and addition they are still studying the fine free issue and the loss of revenue.

An insurance claim has been filed, we cannot get back up to 100% usage until our emergency order of equipment arrives. It is expected that the cost of the damage will exceed \$100,000 and our deductible is \$10,000. Until the Finance committee has received all of the necessary equipment and paid all of the bills related to this emergency, they are not in a position to evaluate additional expense to the budget.

It was my decision along with DEI Chair, Cherukuri to cancel the July 20 Reflection session where it was anticipated Board members would attend and respond to the various issues brought forward. The date of July 20 was established by the previous DEI Committee last year and was somewhat of a surprise to the 3 new Board members and the new DEI committee.

When we, new members, heard of this date, we were in the midst of Board Training, update meetings with Director Farkas as well as our efforts to discover all that has taken place with the DEI since it was established.

I heard from several members that they would not be available on July 20. Since most of the topics required a Board response, it would not be appropriate for the current DEI Committee to answer for the full Board.

I suspect many may feel the Library Board has moved too slowly to address the racial issues expressed in the Listening Sessions, but if you look through the time-line of all that has taken place since June 25th of last year when the Board established a new Ad Hoc Equity and Inclusion Committee, I don't know of any Library in the region and maybe even State, that has done more in a year relating to DEI!

It wasn't until September of 2020 Board meeting that the Equity and Inclusion Committee became a standing committee of the Board and renamed Diversity, Equity and Inclusion with

Trustee Michener Appointed as Chair and Trustees, Wood and I believe Dooley were appointed to the new committee.

So it hasn't even been a full year yet and look at all that has been accomplished, along with the pandemic and closures, boiler issues, staffing shortages and power outages, truly remarkable, amazing progress has been made due in large part to the passion, dedication and ingenuity of Trustee Michener, the DEI committee members, Novi Library staff and community members who have spoken up.

Congratulations to all of you who have worked so hard to bring and create dynamic programs, research and audit our collections and those brave enough to take part in difficult conversations.

I am confident that this Board and staff are going to work diligently to build on the great Diversity, Equity and Inclusion foundation you have built, this is a beginning...not an end.

The Library Board retreat and reflection from Dr. Lee Meadow is included in the July Board packet. Trustees are asked to review suggestions from Dr. Lee Meadow. Due to technology issues the OMA training was held on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Michener responded to the cancellation of the listening session reflection. She said she saw the note explaining there was not enough notice and she said if the board is going to build trust, they have to be honest and said there is an integrity issue. She said the date was in the Engage, which they had to put out early enough. Trustee Michener said that was not a surprise date and she thinks everyone had ample notice as it was discussed at the last board meeting. She said these things definitely impact her and the community. Also, she was dismayed by President Crawford's note that only items listed more than once were addressed. Trustee Michener said this pierced her heart because there are people that took a lot of courage to say what was on their heart and they may be the only one that cared about that concern and it is not addressed in the response because it was not brought up more than once. She wants that considered. Trustee Michener said she would be doing an injustice to herself, her community and her conscious by not saying how disappointed she is. She also said no one in the committee agreed on the cancellation except the chair and that was a hardship for many of them. On the Juneteenth, the board said finance and policy so she has been patiently wait to get her email about Juneteenth since she is on Policy committee and the President's report today said Finance only. Trustee Michener added that they want to be heard and not feel like people are trying to pull one over on them, as a community. She hopes this can be made right.

President Crawford apologized for the oversight. She said she started to write Policy and Finance together in her speech regarding Juneteenth, and it was an oversight that can be easily corrected and it was not intentional. President Crawford was concern that not all board members could attend the reflection session, who would answer since the questions were directed to the board. Also, President Crawford was open to other board members topics and she did not hear back from Trustee Michener about other topics. Trustee Michener said she did respond and that she was disappointed how it went and about the cancellation and said she did not get a response to that.

3. Treasurer's Report (Geoffrey Wood)- pages 67-69
  - A. 2020-2021 Library Budget Fund 268

The 2020-2021 Library Fund 268 budget (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter column) calls for revenue of \$3,190,826 with expenditures of \$3,148,793 adding \$42,033 to the fund balance.

B. 2020-2021 Contributed Fund Budget 269

The 2020-2021 Library Contributed Fund 269 budget (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter column) calls for revenue of \$40,860 and expenditures of \$49,450 consuming \$8,590 of the fund balance.

C. Financial Report - June 2021

On page 71 of the June Board packet.

D. Library Fund 268 Expenditure and Revenue Report ending June 30, 2021

Revenue ending June 30, 2021 was \$3,216,604.

Expenditures ending June 30, 2021 was \$2,922,870.

E. Library Fund 269 Contributed Fund ending June 30, 2021

Revenue ending June 30, 2021 was \$37,338.

Expenditures ending June 30, 2021 was \$13,802.

F. Balance Sheets for Funds 268 and 269 as of June 30, 2021

Ending Fund Balance for Fund 268 as of June 30, 2021 was \$2,575,231

Ending Fund Balance for Fund 269 as of June 30, 2021 was \$1,730,515

Director Farkas commented that the answer to Trustee Michener's question regarding the Defined Contribution account, from the last board meeting, can be found on page 38 of the June Board meeting.

4. Director's Report (Julie Farkas)

On pages 78-89 of the July Board packet.

Staff members celebrating anniversaries for July are:

- Elizabeth Kopko– Support Services - 11 years
- Danielle Mazur - Information Services- 1 year

A. Information Technology Report (pages 90-91)

B. Facilities Report (pages 91-92)

C. Information Services Report (pages 92-96)

D. Support Services Report (pages 97-98)

E. Library Usage Statistics Report (pages 99-107)

F. Friends of Novi Library – (pages 108-111)

G. City of Novi Historical Commission – (N/A)

Director Farkas was happy to point out that physical items checked out in June, 2021 hit 102,956 which is the highest month the Library has had in History!! (Page 101). Summer reading has a big impact on this and people are excited to be reading and checking out items again.

Trustee Cherukuri asked Director Farkas to highlight damage to the library from the storm. Director Farkas expects a cost of approximately \$100,000 to replace equipment that was damaged in the server room. She has filed an insurance claim. Also, she had to move quickly on purchasing the replacement equipment as the building is in critical mode. Parts are being moved around in the data closet to make areas functional. The public is always first and staff is not working at full potential, as they are impacted. Director Farkas will keep the board posted.

Director Farkas sends a big thank you to Barb Rutkowski and her dedication to keep the public areas up and running.

### **Public Comment**

President Crawford asked that remarks be limited to those pertaining to matters before the Board, to Board business or policy, or to issues of community concern or interest. While comment upon the action, inaction, or performance of the Board, the Trustees, employees, and consultants is allowed, inappropriate, profane, vulgar, or abusive language and personal attacks will not be tolerated. She asked Citizens to state their first, last name and Novi address.

Sharon Trumpy, residing on Harvest Drive, Novi.

- Sharon would like a correction to her posted comments from the community listening session notes (page 53 in the July, 2021 Board packet). It states that Sharon commended Jim Paulk and said that libraries should be resources for the entire community and should involve a breath of experience. She agrees with that, but would like to point out that she did not agree with Jim Paulk in terms of his definitions of diversity, equity and inclusion or his comments about Muslims. She also would like a correction to the notes which says Sharon spoke of Carol Sobrowski's comment about wanting both sides of the LGBTQ+ issues addressed. Sharon stated that she believes straight people are well-represented in the library and that she is specifically in favor of making sure that the LGBTQ+ community also feel safe and represented.
- Sharon noticed in the response from the listening session, which she only had access to when she arrived, so it makes it very hard to have a conversation or respond. There is a quote from Trustee Crawford that without honest conversations both ways, trust and understanding cannot be accomplished. Sharon said this is the issue that she is struggling with, that they have been trying to have this conversation for quite some time now and the very last minute cancellation of the listening session response and especially hearing the reasons, just furthers her feelings of distrust.
- Sharon also has a schedule that she has to arrange so that she can attend these events. It would have been appreciated if when the board realized that they were not going to hold the session, it should have been communicated quickly to the public.
- Sharon sent an email, she believes the day after last month's board meeting in regards to research on fine free libraries and she received no response until an hour and fifteen minutes before the start of this board meeting, which was from Trustee Cherukuri, which she finds interesting since the fine free library discussion as she has been told has not been referred to the DEI committee.

Audra Holdorf resides off Emerald Forest Drive, Novi.

- Audra wanted to start off with a quote, "White people are the experts on racism because we created it."
- Audra commented that the listening session response was cancelled last minute with very short notice without any communication via Facebook, social media or email.
- She is disappointed that it was communicated that Trustee Cherukuri cancelled the response session without the consultation of the other Trustees on the DEI committee.
- Audra is greatly concern that Trustee Cherukuri as the head of the DEI committee used his power to cancel this session clearly showing he does not have an interest of the residents in mind, whom this affects. Also, she is still waiting to see all the items be addressed in the document.
- As Trustee Michener just stated dismissing items that were only written once is making the communities thoughts not important. She asks that Trustee Cherukuri and all the board members truly reflect if they are committed to this work or is it just another place on their resume.

- She wanted to point out a response from Trustee Crawford questioning what safety was for a Black woman. Assuming that it was a building safety issue, when the person who spoke was explicit in her concerns.
- Audra is also disappointed that the chair of the committee did not comment on any of the concerns. She can assume that Trustee Cherukuri is not for anti-racism work and do not value the concerns of the community as referenced in his social media posts a New York minute, a cotton picking minute.
- Lastly, Audra urges the board to stop making excuses and pay the employees for Juneteenth as she is worried that the board will all be re-called.

Carol Soborowski resides on Lake Drive, Novi.

- Carol would like to share her thoughts on the fine free library structure. She understands that it does not represent much of the library revenue, but in her opinion it represents a check on human behavior. It is an accountability to bring your book back, even if it is ten cents.
- Carol commented that the flip side is that someone who is waiting for a book on hold is out. Again, she sees the fine as a check on human behavior as the human heart is deceitful.
- Carol had a comment on the not feeling safe statement. She personally would love to hear more about what that means to someone and she will put that in an email to DEI. She is curious what other people's situations are when they do not feel safe. When she thinks of it from personal experience, she could be in the safest place in the world, and if she does not feel safe who's responsibility is that? So for Carol it is a question of where does someone else's responsibility begin and end and where does hers begin and end.
- Lastly, she would like to comment and say that she has also called and emailed more than once since March and April with questions for the DEI committee and she also has not received responses.

### **Committee Reports/Non-Action Items**

1. **Policy Committee:** Review current public policies for the Library  
(Chair-Wood, Bartlett, and Michener, Staff Liaison – Julie Farkas)
  - Staff Committee: Julie Farkas, Barb Rutkowski, Maryann Zurmuehlen, Betty Lang, Keith Perfect, Dana Brataniec and Hillary Hentschel.
  - Director Farkas is working with attorney on reviewing current Pandemic Procedure and Policy as we are getting closer to Phase 6 (full library operations to begin as of 9/7/21)
  - Update: Policy committee sent available dates to Director Farkas to set a meeting.
2. **HR Committee:** Review HR Policies for the Library, Director Review & Goals  
(Chair -Crawford, Staff Liaison – Julie Farkas & Nicole Williams)
  - Staff Committee: Julie Farkas, Nicole Williams, Lindsay Gojcaj, and Kirsten Malzahn.
  - No meeting; No report
  - Current policies being reviewed by HR Specialist and HR Attorney: Employee Smoking Policy and Remote Work Policy
3. **Finance Committee:** Financial plan based on building assessment review, Library endowment investigation.  
(Chair- Bartlett, Cherukuri, Wood, Staff Liaisons – Julie Farkas & Barbara Cook)
  - A meeting was held on July 13, 2021: There was a discussion on costs associated with holiday pay. Carl Johnson, CFO for City of Novi, attended the meeting to continue discussions that were pre-COVID regarding an endowment/foundation opportunity for NPL.

- Update: Trustee Bartlett said the committee had a very good discussion with Carl Johnson. At this meeting, the committee also discussed a potential large donation to the library.

4. **Events/Marketing/Fundraising Committee:** Outreach opportunities

(Chair -Dooley, Bartlett, Yu, Staff Liaison – Julie Farkas & Dana Brataniec)

- Meeting held Monday, July 12, 2021: Committee reviewed the soft launch of NPL's new website and gave their notes and observations. An official public announcement will be soon. Each Trustee on this committee is planning to rotate to attend a Friends of the Novi Library meeting – we feel that there should be more synergy between the two groups. Thank you to the Friends for everything they do for the library and community. Trustee Yu attended their July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Trustee Bartlett attended the Memorial Reception for a new art installation and fundraiser from the Krupic family – in memory of Peggy Krupic. People can purchase butterflies which helps raise funds for NPL> Brochure can be found on the website. More marketing will take place via email and social media. Read Boxes – currently on display at various public parks. We have one more box available to place. Director Farkas is currently working on the location with the city. Working on an idea to hold a public auction for more read boxes during National Library Month next April 2022. More information to follow. Currently staff is working on migrating and launching Patron Point. The hope is to send marketing to all current and active library card holders via that system. Current e-newsletter is sent via Constant Contact and approximately 2500 subscribers opt in. 3-4pm via zoom.

- Next Committee meeting is August 2, from 3-4pm

**Events Attended by Library Board Members**

- Torry and Kat attended: Un-shelving the Fear in Your DEI Mission webinar through Lib Assoc. of MI – Trustee Michener was the presenter.
- All trustees had OMA training 7/12/21 and attended the Board Retreat 6/26/21
- Torry attended Friends of Novi Library 7/14/21
- Trustee Bartlett attended the Butterfly Fundraising debut event 6/27/21

5. **Strategic Planning Committee:**

(Chair - Bartlett, Dooley, Staff Liaison – Julie Farkas)

- No meeting; No report
- Based on the Board Retreat on Saturday, June 26, 2021, committees are being asked to identify 2-3 goals to be identified and addressed for 21/22.

6. **Building/Landscape Committee:**

(Chair-Yu, Cherukuri, Staff Liaison – Julie Farkas)

- Meeting held on 6/22/21. This meeting was general in nature to bring new members Yu and Cherukuri up to date on building/grounds information.
- Next meeting scheduled for July 26, from 2-3pm. Director Farkas is currently working with Barb Rutkowski, Head of IT, on technology damages due to the two large storms and power outages that occurred on 6/24/21 and 7/7/21 which resulted in the library being closed the evening of 7/7, all day 7/8 and 7/9. Technology was restored for opening on 7/10, but this is a current critical issue for hardware replacement. An inventory of hardware damages and costs are being reviewed for insurance purposes.

7. **Bylaw Committee: Review of Library Board Bylaws**

(Chair – Wood, Bartlett, Michener, Staff Liaison – Julie Farkas)

- Meeting was held on 7/15/21: Committee met with the attorney to review the current draft bylaws that were initiated by former committee members (dated February 25,

2021). There was a discussion about the current state of the bylaw committee not being recognized formally in the current bylaws as a standing committee, but has been recognized by President Crawford and board members are currently appointed.

- Update: Trustee Wood said the Trustees had a great meeting and acknowledged they were all new members to the by-law committee. He looks forward to more great discussions at future meetings.

#### 8. **DEI: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee**

(Chair – Cherukuri, Dooley, Michener, Staff Liaisons – Julie Farkas & Nicole Williams)

- Meeting was held on July 15, 2021: Community listening session was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Featured a short video showing the community what the NPL has done with DEI over the past year. Many familiar faces in attendance. Comments were primarily board focused, and have been shared with the Board at the Board Retreat on 6/26/21. The Multi-cultural Walk Through has been tabled. Director Farkas provided an update on activities from the Staff DEI Committee. Working on Committee Vision/Focus including discrete goals for the coming year.
- Next meeting proposed for August 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Update: Trustee Cherukuri said he is still relatively new to the process. He said the library has events set up by the staff and events that the board itself schedules. The listening and reflection session held last fall were staff events that board members try to attend. Most comments received last fall required staff response. He felt it was a very effective session and a lot was learned from the community to shape library actions this past year and the library continues to grow. Fast forward to spring, the latest listening session was put together. This was a staff event encouraging board members to attend by the then chair of DEI committee. The difference is this time most of the comments were geared toward board activity/actions/opinion. The Board speaks together through actions and motions; things done at board meetings. Therefore, comments were collected and they are in the process of moving them through the entire board. President Crawford has shared the comments thus far. So that is the reason that meeting was cancelled. Trustee Cherukuri knows some people are disappointed, but the OMA has certain restrictions on how they communicate as a board and how they reflect out to people and they are doing their best in that fashion.
- Trustee Michener said on July 15<sup>th</sup> they did have a meeting. She said honesty is super important and she is hearing so much that is not true tonight; that it is making her struggle. After that session, they did talk about the comments that they had and the staff did have thoughts that pertain to them, but the chair left early. Trustee Michener commented that there are just some things that are not communicated correctly. As previous DEI chair, she worked very hard to be above board and respond to everybody's comments that emailed her. She keeps these notes together, just because sometimes people lie. Trustee Michener said it is really important to have integrity with the community. She felt the comment made about cotton picking is extremely not okay and she does not know how much the other members know about that and she is floored that that might be something that someone in charge of DEI would say. She is hoping that she is not being used as a tokenization point. When the DEI chair changed there has not been one meeting where the committee has been heard or things have been sent through. People have written letters about their concerns and the chair will not say what he feels about DEI. If someone is leading a committee she wants to know what DEI means to them.

### **Matters for Board Action**

1. A motion was made to make the Bylaw Committee an ad-hoc committee, for the purpose of updating the by-laws. The bylaw committee will then propose whether it's to be an ad-hoc committee or a standing committee.

1st- Trustee Bartlett

2nd- Trustee Michener

Roll Call Vote was taken. 6 yes votes. Motion passes unanimously. Trustee Dooley absent/excused.

Discussion: Trustee Cherukuri asked for clarification as to the difference between policies and by-laws for the audience. Trustee Wood said that by-laws govern the organization and operations of the Library Board. Policies are more specific to the operations of the library itself.

### **Communications**

1. 6/24/21: Rob David – Re: Visit to Lakeshore Lending Library
2. 6/25/21: Julia Tauro - Re: Your appt. in the iCube Makerspace
3. 6/29/21: Sharon Trumpy- Re: Fine Free Library Considerations
4. 7/12/21: Sue Genschoreck – Re: NPL Website searching for book
5. 7/15/21: Sharon Trumpy, Re: OMA Session
6. 7/16/21: Sharon Trumpy, Re: FOIA Request
7. 7/16/21: David Molloy – Re: A big thank you

### **Closed Session**

#### **1. None**

Entering into Closed Session: A motion was made to move to closed session for purposes of discussing Director Farkas annual review.

Exiting Closed Session: A motion was made to end closed session and return to the Library Board Meeting.

### **Adjournment**

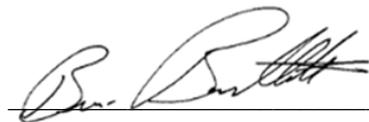
Trustee Bartlett will miss the September Board meeting. Trustee Dooley will be acting as Secretary during the September meeting. Trustee Yu could potentially miss the September meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.

1<sup>st</sup>— Trustee Michener

2<sup>nd</sup>— Trustee Yu

Roll Call vote to adjourn was unanimous.



Brian Bartlett, Secretary

August 26, 2021

Date