

## MINUTES

### **Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – March 16, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. online.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Kemper, President  
Laura Dominik  
Pete Browne  
Billie Howard Barnes  
India Williams

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Claudia Oñate Greim  
Susie Kenney  
Michelle Smirnova  
Denesha Snell

STAFF PRESENT: John Herron, Chief Executive  
Jessica Addo, Administrative Officer  
Amanda Barnhart, North-East Branch Manager  
Reed Beebe, Purchasing Manager  
Janice Bolin, Director of Finance  
Melissa Carle, Director of Information Systems  
Carrie Coogan, Deputy Director for Public Affairs and  
Community Engagement  
Jennifer Combs, Collection Development Associate  
Andera Ellis, Director of Strategic Learning  
Crystal Faris, Director of Youth & Family Engagement  
Joel Jones, Deputy Director of Library Services  
Dawn Mackey, Technical Services Manager  
Mary Olive Joyce, Director of Library Outreach and Community  
Engagement  
Heather Pedersen, Executive Assistant / Manager of Executive  
Services  
Margaret Perkins-McGuinness, Deputy Director for Philanthropy  
Debbie Siragusa, Assistant Director / Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Stoppello, Director of Library Collections  
Karen Weitzel, Director of Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT: Katie Allison

While waiting on a quorum, Herron discussed the Director's Report with the Board. (LBM 4477) The executive team is looking at plans to reopen.

Williams arrived 4:37 p.m.

Kemper called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.

**Motion by Dominik to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021 Regular Board meeting. Second by Howard Barnes. Approved unanimously.**

(Note: As a matter of Board convention, the Chair votes only when his/her vote would affect the outcome of the vote. In all "recorded" votes, the vote of the Chair appears only when it has actually been cast and when it has had an effect on the disposition of the motion. Notations of "approved unanimously" mean all members, other than the Chair, voting affirmatively.)

**Motion by Howard Barnes to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Dominik.** Further explanation was provided by Siragusa and Coogan regarding the expenditures for the the National Technology Network (NTEN) Grant, Titan Branch Security, and Kenton Brothers Lock Co. **Approved unanimously.** The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for February 2021: Payroll (02/25/21 net cash \$307,669 plus taxes \$119,646) and (03/11/21 net cash \$247,901 plus taxes \$93,743) total amount of \$768,959; General Expense Payments including Checks (#5013-5231), in the amount of \$977,373. (LBM 4473)**

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for February 2021. (LBM 4474)**

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the contract with and/or make payment to the attached list of vendors in amounts not to exceed those detailed in the attached list of vendors for FY 2020 - 2021. (LBM 4475)**

**Motion by Dominik to designate the Chief Executive to informally project the Library's nonbinding tax levy for tax year 2021 pursuant to the provisions of Section 137.243(1) RSMo. Second by Howard Barnes. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4476)**

Herron introduced the co-charis of the Racial Equity Team: Andera Ellis, Director of Strategic Learning, and Mary Olive Joyce, Director of Library Outreach and Community Engagement. They described the initial survey sent to all staff to get a benchmark of the perception of racial equity efforts at the Library, the results and how the team was formed. The Racial Equity Team is now conducting focus groups for Library staff, and Board members were invited to schedule two on one meetings with the team to participate. A list of priorities will ultimately be presented to the Library leadership and Board.

Browne left at 5:27 p.m.

Staff shared that tax preparation services will be provided at Library locations as much as possible while we also work to connect patrons to other community partners who are offering free services.

**Motion by Dominik to adjourn. Second by Howard Barnes. Approved unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date