



Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
**Wednesday, April 1, 2015**  
8:00AM-10:00AM  
Downtown

**Present:** Ana Alfaro, Luke Bronin, Julio Concepcion, Greg Davis, Marc DiBella, Anne Melissa Dowling, Stephen Goddard, Jack Godsill, Edward Keith (phone), and Thea Montañez.

**Also present:** Matthew Poland, chief executive officer; Mary Billings, chief public services officer; Donna Haghighat, chief development officer; Mary Tzambazakis, chief administrative officer; Andrea Figueroa, senior executive assistant, and Karl Fisher, finance director.

**Absent:** Andrew Diaz-Matos and Connie Green.

**1. Introduction:**

President Anne Melissa Dowling called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

**2. Consent Agenda**

***Board Action:*** Motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

***Board Action:*** Motion was made to approve the Development and Financial Health Committee Reports. The motion was seconded and approved.

**3. Presentations**

***I. ePlace***

Rachel Gary, communications manager, introduced the new intranet called ePlace to the Board. This site will help staff and board members with internal communications. It is also an easy way for board members to access board meeting documents.

The board suggested having a section called “Board Book” to add documents for upcoming meetings. And also to add to the fundraising tab a list of corporate partners.

***II. YOUmedia***

Tricia George, YOUmedia manager, gave the Board an update on YOUmedia. Over the past three months, YOUmedia’s primary effort was in recruiting. Ms. George

began holding social events on the first Friday of every month, getting out to school classrooms during teen tech week, and closer connections to teachers. The next recruitment effort will be focused on young women and getting them into the space. Two partnerships coming up, potential opportunity to start offering YOUmedia as an elective credit in city-wide blended learning initiative, and Capital Workforce Partners is helping to extend YOUmedia hours over the summer through teen interns. YOUmedia is also re-launching a new website and will be up and running in a few weeks.

#### **4. New Business**

On Tuesday, March 31, 2015 the Lutheran and Episcopalian priests renewed their vows by going out in the community. They chose to have their ceremonies at the Bushnell Park and then visited the four organizations which they believed were doing "God's work". Those organizations were Hartford Hospital, Hartford Public Library, and Capital Community College. They created a prayer for each specific organization.

In upcoming events, April is poetry month and for the first time, the Library is focusing on poetry across the customer spectrum, children through older adults. Partnership with Hartford Stage will have a noon program featuring *The Pianist of Willesden Lane* at the Downtown Library, and in partnership with the Science Center a lunch series with *Beyond the Podium*, for Women's History month an author talk *The Remarkable Women of Hartford*, *Shakespeare in Harlem*, and *Moving towards Social Change*.

The latest Urban Libraries Council Leadership Brief: Partners for Education was published nationally. The city of Hartford is highlighted.

Connecticut Explored is featuring three articles that are related to HPL.

There are two donor events coming up. The first one for targeted donors is *Leap into Learning* scheduled for April 15, 2015 from 5-7:00PM sponsored by two couples Alison Coolbrith and Barry Lastra with Sandra and Howard Fromson. The second Donor Event is for all donors to be thanked scheduled for May 8 from 5:30PM-8:00PM.

#### **5. Other Business**

##### ***I. One Big Summer Night***

The breakdown for 2015 revenue is \$90,725 gross; \$40,656 expenses, and \$50,069 net. Most corporate partners will be listed as event sponsors. Attendance for OBSN this year is predicted to be a bit higher than last year. All board members will be listed as event stars on the invitation.

**II. Park Street Branch**

A community conversation was held March 26, 2015 to prepare for the presentation to the State Library. About 25-30 people attended the meeting including library staff, library board and Mayor Segarra. The main focus was the cultural center space.

**III. UCONN Update**

The terms of agreement was sent to the City's corporation counsel and returned with no significant changes; the Library was asked to add a phrase on discrimination clause. The Library's goal is to have the definitive agreement with UCONN completed in the fall.

**6. Executive Session**

**Board Action:** Motion was made to move into executive session at 9:15 a.m. The motion was seconded and approved.

President Dowling reconvened the regular meeting at 9:55 a.m.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew K. Poland,  
Acting Secretary