



**Minutes
of the Special Board of Directors Meeting
January 8, 2020
8:00AM – 9:00AM
Downtown**

Present: Gregory Davis, *chair*, David Barrett, *vice-chair*, Arunan Arulampalam, Melvyn Colon, Andréa Comer (phone), Andrew Diaz-Matos, Floyd Green, Steve Harris, Antonio Matta, Dan O’Shea, Mark Overmyer-Velazquez (phone), Phyllis Shikora, Geraldine Sullivan (phone), and Karen Taylor.

Also Present: Bridget Quinn-Carey, president and CEO; Leticia Cotto, customer experience officer; Marie Jarry, director of Public Services; Brenda Miller, executive director, culture and communications; Homa Naficy, executive director, the American Place; Gilda Roncari, donor relations director; Diana Smith, Director of Human Resources; Mary Tzambazakis, chief administrative officer; Karl Fisher, finance director, and Andrea Figueroa, executive assistant.

Absent: Ana Alfaro, Rick Costello and Edward Keith.

1. Call to Order

President Gregory Davis called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

Mr. Davis introduced the members of the board on the phone line and welcomed Mayor Luke Bronin for joining the meeting.

The Mayor wanted to talk about strategic priorities and encourage the Library to think about ways to create a sustainable financial model in the coming years. He stated that no city department is immune during these difficult budget challenges. But he committed to keeping the Library at current level of support. The challenge is that costs continue to rise as the Library remains at level funding. Also, when the insurance money support ends, the City and the Library will have to have other funding sources in place to ensure continued operation of the Library.

HPL Board members expressed the many different resources and programs that the Library provides to the community and how important it is to continue to provide those services. Because if the Library doesn’t provide those resources, who will?

HPL Board members also expressed to the Mayor the continued work the Board has already done and continues to do in fundraising and how the Mayor can be a huge part in telling the Library’s story. The Mayor understands the Library’s mission and is willing to be a partner and work with the Library and Board on pitching HPL’s

story to new supporters. The Mayor asked that we help him identify those specific outreach sources and he will work with the Library to tell the story locally and nationally.

The Board thanked the Mayor for his support of HPL and for meeting with them.

Adjourn

Board Action: With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget Quinn-Carey
President and CEO