



**Minutes
of the Board of Directors Meeting
August 1, 2024
Noon**

Present: David Barrett, *Chair*; Andréa Comer; Rick Costello, *Treasurer*; Carlos Galdamez; Floyd Green; Steve Harris, *Secretary*; Suzanne Hopgood; Sara Lashetski; Patsy Mundy; Sarah Needham; Mark Overmyer-Velazquez; Phyllis Shikora; Margaret Sweetland Patricelli, and Tyrone Walker.

Also Present: Bridget E. Quinn, President and CEO; Gwen Cannon, Human Resources Director; Leticia Cotto, Chief Administrative Officer; Gina Federico, Director Corporate & Foundation Relations; Marie Jarry, Chief Operating Officer; Brenda Miller, Executive Director, Culture & Communications; Homa Naficy, Executive Director, The American Place; Gilda Roncari, Donor Relations Director; Mary Tzambazakis, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel; Andrea Figueroa, Senior Executive Assistant; Samantha Bailey and Alexa Esposito.

1. Call to Order

Chair David Barrett called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. Consent Agenda

Board Action: Motion was made to approve the consent agenda that included minutes of the June 6, 2024 Board of Directors meeting, minutes of the June 26, 2024 Development Committee meeting, minutes of the July 8, 2024 Downtown Strategies Task Force Committee meeting, and minutes of the July 25, 2024, Executive Committee meeting. The motion was moved by Phyllis Shikora and was seconded by Tyrone Walker. The motion carried.

3. Mission Moment

Ms. Quinn introduced Alexa Esposito, Boundless Librarian at Rawson who talked about the Youth Summer Learning Program with a theme *Reading Through Time* celebrating HPL's 250th anniversary. Samantha Bailey, Assistant Director of Adult Services talked about the Adult Summer Reading Program with the theme *Summer Spark* with a cash incentive and raffle prizes for those who participate. There is also a staff involvement within branches so everyone is engaged.

4. President and CEO's Report

The President and CEO Report was distributed in advance. Ms. Bridget Quinn gave a brief overview. One of the reporting areas in the report was HPL Studios. A stakeholder presentation took place recently, which was an invitation to people in the community which aligned with the industry. The presentation showcased programs and initiatives with some feedback from industry insiders but to also raise awareness about HPL Studios. There is also an event at Keney Park to honor and celebrate those that have been participating in the 250 stories. The visits and items checked out is doing very well. Especially with electronic resources being that HPL is offering more and people are finding it easier with having compatible devices.

5. Board Chair's Report

Mr. David Barrett shared that he attended the HPL Studios stakeholder event and it was a good session. It was the first time he had been in the boardroom since the flood and mentioned that the October Board meeting would be in person and to take place in the boardroom.

6. Committee and Task Force Reports

Development Committee

Ms. Sarah Needham gave some quick updates on the Development Committee. In 2023, board giving was 100 percent. In 2024, board giving is at 76 percent. She reminded all that 100 percent of board giving shows commitment and aligns with HPL's Mission. Ambassador giving is at 44 percent. The goal is 250 donors, and to date there is a total of \$35,000. Beyond Words event will be the driver for additional contributions. Sponsorships total is up over \$100,000 with the goal of \$175,000. Ms. Needham encouraged all Board members to attend the Books and Brews event in September. This will be a nice event and opportunity for Board members to connect with people that might not know as much about the library's mission.

Downtown Strategies Task Force Update

Ms. Bridget Quinn gave a brief presentation on the Capital Projects update showing the scope of project, the complexities, and all moving parts of the project. A mini walkthrough of the construction was done this summer. It is projected that HPL will be able to open the first floor to the public in late October/early November. Ms. Quinn also shared floor plans for the Barbour Library project. As far as funding for

both projects, nothing is confirmed but there is encouragement that money may be available either through bonding or community investment fund.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget E. Quinn
President and CEO