



**Minutes
of the Board of Directors Meeting
August 4, 2022
Noon
Via zoom**

Present: David Barrett, *chair*, Ana Alfaro, *secretary*, Melvyn Colon, Rick Costello, *treasurer*, Gregory Davis, Carlos Galdamez, Floyd Green, Steve Harris, Suzanne Hopgood, Sara Lashetski, Antonio Matta, Sarah Needham, Mark Overmyer-Velazquez, Phyllis Shikora, and Dan O’Shea.

Also Present: Bridget E. Quinn, 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; Mary Tzambazakis, Chief Administrative Office, and Andrea Figueroa, senior executive assistant.

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 2, 2022, Board of Directors meeting; minutes of the June 29, 2022, Finance Committee meeting; minutes of the July 26, 2022, Barbour Task Force Committee meeting; minutes of the July 27, 2022, Development Committee meeting; minutes of the July 28, 2022, Executive Committee meeting, and minutes of the July 28, 2022, Governance Committee meeting. The motion was moved by Steve Harris and seconded by Melvyn Colon. The motion carried.

3. President and CEO’s Report

Ms. Quinn shared highlights of the 4th quarter. Branches are now back to regular service, except Rawson due to the public service hours available from the school. Programmatically, summer learning has so many kids participating this year. HPL is creating a Hartford History Center Annex and Research Center at Ropkins which will be the home for the Hartford History Center and Hartford Courant collections. HPL is using this space to provide valuable service to the community. Renovations are expected to be completed by this fall and will be able to do a small ribbon cutting ceremony. The Strategic Plan outline of priorities will be shared in the coming weeks.

Ms. Quinn and Ms. Naficy shared an announcement that HPL received a 3-year national leadership grant award from IMLS will connect recent immigrants to local banks.

4. **Board Chair's Report**

Mr. Barrett shared the first piece of business on committee assignments. Mr. Barrett recommends adding Ana Alfaro to the Albany Expansion Task Force Committee.

Board Action: A motion was made to have Ana Alfaro join the Albany Expansion Task Force Committee. The motion was moved by David Barrett and seconded by Greg Davis. The motion carried.

Mr. Barrett asked Floyd Green to give an overview of the transition work of the Corporators. Floyd updated the full board on ways to structure new ways of engagement.

- Categorizing (brand, business development, activation, etc.)
- Naming of the Corporators (developing a survey to come up with names)
- Engaging youth on the Board
- Giving them a home (i.e. Literary Society, 1812 Society, etc.)

The plan is to have something more formal and concrete in place by the October board meeting.

Mr. Barrett reminded the Board that this is the time of year for the President and CEO's self-evaluation. Survey will go out in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Barrett attended the summer learning kick-off and shared how it was an exciting afternoon. The most popular activity was the animal making with balloons.

Ms. Quinn shared the announcement of the new UConn Library director Karen Tatarka. She will be a wonderful addition to the UConn team and HPL.

5. **Mission Moment**

Ms. Quinn introduced Marie Jarry who presented on the current state of bans and censorship in libraries nation-wide. She also shared in advance the Library Bill of Rights document.

6. **Other Business**

Collection Development Policy Update

The Collection Policy was updated with just one change removing the reference to the music collection. HPL found a new home for the sheet music collection at the Queens Library. The collection will still be available to HPL.

Board Action: A motion was made to adopt the amended Collection Development Policy and Appendix A. The motion was adopted by Antonio Matta and seconded by Rick Costello. Motion carried.

7. Committee and Task Force Reports

- **Albany Expansion Task Force:**

The City is managing the remediation and structural integrity work that needs to happen at the Northwest school. Internally working on putting together an application for state grant funds for the project and also getting schematic drawings of what the renovated space would look like. The City will cover the cost for the stabilization, and funding that the City has given HPL will be used for the renovation and expansion.

- **Barbour Street Task Force:**

The plans are moving along with the schematics and designs for the space. Have not moved forward with design development until there is more additional information from Community Solutions. Chase has pulled back and are not intending from moving forward with the space. HPL has shared with Community Solutions that if Chase does not go into the space, the Library is interested in the space and does not want any other partner in the space. Currently working on the lease and development agreements. Moving forward with the capital campaign to have funds available for the 11-to-20-year timeframe.

8. New Business

There was no new business to report.

Adjournment

Board Action: With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Motion was moved by Greg Davis seconded by Phyllis Shikora. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget E. Quinn
President and CEO