

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting for Tuesday, January 9th, 2024

Location: Virtual

Attending: Maria McCauley, Michael Baenen, Kaija Langley, Karen Kosko, Jim Roosevelt, Liz Werby, Alyssa Pacy, and Carson McGrath

1. **Public Comment:** None

2. **Tiedemann Collection update with Alyssa Pacy**

Alyssa Pacey, the Library's Archivist, gave an update to the Board of Trustees on the status of the Tiedemann Collection. In 2022, the Board of Trustees drafted a letter to the Boston Medical Library President Dr. Richard Pieters to request the library keep the collection at Harvard Countway Library. After, Director McCauley sent a draft to the City's lawyers and the Assistant City Solicitor Sydney Wright. Pacy informed the group they received some minor edits back and emailed the letter to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees agreed they will review the letter and discuss its approval at the next meeting.

3. **Informal Check Ins**

4. **Approval of Minutes from the December 5th meeting**

Chairperson Kaija Langley noted a misspelling of Trustee Liz Werby's name in the minutes. After this was addressed, she motioned to approve the minutes. Trustee Jim Roosevelt moved to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Trustee Liz Werby, approved unanimously.

5. **Central Square Planning/Discussion**

The group debriefed the Central Square City Lots Study Community Meeting #3 that took place Thursday, December 14. Chairperson Kaija Langley said her breakout group was supportive of looking at the whole 689 Massachusetts Avenue site for the library. Trustee Jim Roosevelt said around 40-50 people were in attendance. Chairperson Kaija Langley said some people in the meeting felt they were not aware of previous Community Meetings on the topic. Director McCauley said she would check in with Assistant Director Jason Yee on the status of the next meeting since he will be attending a meeting on the subject this week. The group discussed the City's possible desire to utilize the top floor for office space. Director McCauley reiterated she believes the entire building would benefit the community if turned into a library space but did mention the city is in need of office space.

6. **Library Updates by Maria McCauley**

Director McCauley provided updates about hiring, construction, and events. She reported the O'Connell Branch hired a new Branch Manager, Abby Clinger. The Director informed the Board of Trustees of a few important events coming up including the Library's Legislative Breakfast planned for February 23rd, the 49th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Lecture with Professor Randall Kennedy on Tuesday, January 16, and a poetry reading Wednesday, January 24 by Tracy K. Smith, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and former U.S. Poet Laureate.

Chairperson Kaija Langley proposed to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Trustees Jim Roosevelt. Meeting adjourned.