

**Minutes**  
**Of the Edison Township Library Board of Trustees**  
**Meeting of March 10, 2020**

Present: Lisa Krauze, Patricia Massey, Fiona Meade, Suzanne Cason O'Neill, Shannon Peng, Maureen Ruane, David Ye.

Absent/Not Excused: Neville Arestani, Vasant Naik.

Also Present: Dominick Bratti (board attorney), Samip Joshi (Council liaison), Abbey-Gayle Spencer (library staff).

President Patricia Massey called the meeting to order at the Township Building at 7:04 pm and read the Open Public Meeting Act statement. In the absence of the secretary, the library's administrative assistant was appointed secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting were tabled. Mr. Ye and Ms. Peng brought up concerns of the introduction of attendance without prior notice to the Board Members, and the statement that Councilman Joshi motioned for the adjournment of the meeting. The minutes of the February 26, 2020 special meeting were also tabled.

The approval of February Trustee Account Report and February Bill List were both tabled.

Acting Director's Report

It was reported by the board attorney that the acting director, Timur Davis, had resigned from the Library. Due to that, the approval of the library's budget will be tabled until a new director is in place. Board members had several questions regarding line items that could only be answered by a director.

Carolyn Cullum, supervisor of Children's Service, proposed the procurement of a new poster maker for the North Edison Branch. She was able to secure a special price for the library that will be good until March 13. The board agreed for her to proceed.

Committee Reports

A proposed revision of the Materials Selection/Collection Development Policy was read by Ms. Meade. Mr. Ye had an objection to not buying textbooks, but the President noted that the American Library Association recommends that public libraries leave the supply of textbooks to academic institutions. Lisa Krauze asked to change the wording throughout from "staff" to "librarians".

The proposed Bylaws revision was read by Ms. Krauze. A draft had been proposed in April 2019, but not acted upon. On motion and second (O'Neill/Krauze), the board unanimously approved the revised bylaws.

### Personnel

Union negotiations are ongoing. The first meeting has gone off without a hitch, and the second meeting is just around the corner. Tabled until further notice.

Director Search Consultant proposals: There were three proposals considered. After discussion of the three approaches, on motion and second (Krauze/O'Neill) the Board voted to retain Pro Libra Associates for the search of the new Director.

### Unfinished Business

Councilor Joshi reported on the developments regarding the library's application for the state's library construction bond grant, and the work of SAGE architects. Due to the complexity of the process, the initial quote of \$2,500 has been exhausted and the up-to date quote is \$9,500. Mr. Ye expressed objection to the councilman receiving the quote while none of the board members did. After further discussion, it was voted unanimously on motion and second (O'Neill/Krauze) to approve the payment.

### New Business

On motion and second (Krauze/Ruane), it was voted unanimously to approve a contract with Pro Libra Associates to provide an interim director for the library. Also on motion and second (Krauze/O'Neill), it was voted to have the Personnel Committee will meet with the proposed candidates and select one.

The floor was opened for Public Comment. Mr. Ye gave a statement responding to the recent controversies surrounding him. It was noted by Mr. Bratti that the Public Comment portion of the meeting is for the public; if a board member wishes to respond to an issue not on the agenda, they must first seek permission from the board president. Ms. Peng had an objection to the new policy. It was noted that Public Comment should be kept to 6 minutes.

On motion and second (Krauze/Meade), it was voted to go into closed session to discuss legal matters at 9:52 pm. On motion and second, (Krauze/O'Neill) it was voted to return to regular session at 10:00. No actions were taken as a result of the closed session.

There being no other business, on motion and second (Krauze/O'Neill) the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 pm.

Abbey-Gayle Spencer  
Secretary pro tem