

Minutes
Edison Free Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
December 10, 2019 7:00 pm
Edison Township, 100 Municipal Blvd. Edison, NJ 08817

Call to Order

President Vasant Naik called the meeting to Order at 7:10 pm and read the Open Public Meeting Act Statement.

Roll Call

Present:

David Ye (Treasurer), Shannon Peng (School Superintendent's Representative), Neville Arestani (Secretary), Lawyer for the Library Board (Shain Schaffer) - Benjamin Zilbergeld; Joyce Ship-Freeman Vice President), Vasant Naik (President), Suzanne Cason O'Neill, Maureen Ruane (Mayor's Representative), Patricia Massey, Liza Krauze, Jane Jiang (Director of Edison Township Public Library), Fran Bar Eli (Chief of Staffing for Edison Township Public Library), and Councilman Samip Joshi (Council Liaison)

Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the November board meeting were unanimously approved.

Financial Reports

Trustee Account Report – The November Trustee Account Report was reviewed

Approval of Bill Listing – The November bill listing was reviewed and unanimously approved.

Director's Report

Not reviewed, as a request was made by Patricia Massey to introduce a resolution not on the agenda.

Pat Massey moved for the introduction of a Resolution terminating the Executive Director, terminating the Board's Council Shain Schaffer and eliminating the position of Chief of Staffing.

President Vasant Naik stated the resolution was not part of the agenda and anything not part of the agenda is not going to be discussed today.

Shain Schaffer attorney, Benjamin Zilbergeld, the council for the Edison Library Board made a recommendation regarding the topic of employee termination. The Library board would have to go into closed session as there was no proper RICE notice given. The lawyer asserted if the resolution was discussed in public it would be legally invalid.

Lawyer stated there was an "attempt" to RICE which "we believe" was legally invalid.

Joyce Ship-Freeman stated the RICE was done as a courtesy.

The lawyer stated it is a potential violation of Sunshine Law and the library can be sued.

Tutoring policy
Will be introduced at the next meeting

Collection development policy
Information from ALA
Suggest use new guide and introduce at January meeting

Bookmobile committee
Possible Vendors, information obtained, Will continue to gather data

Facilities committee
Committee met on Nov 19th, consulting with a space planning company

RFID technology proposal (Radio Frequency Identification) – on hold for now

New Cleaning Proposal Company Bid for approval

Lisa Krauze moved to approve “Quality Facility Solutions”
Maureen Ruane seconded.
12 months with 2 one year option renewals

Joyce Ship-Freeman - Motion approved

Non-librarian Union Negotiations

Last Meeting Cancelled
Will reschedule

Announcements:

None at this time

Public comments were given

Patricia Massey made a motion to go into closed session

Lisa Krauze seconded

Open session resumed

Joyce Ship-Freeman recommended Mr. Timur Davis for Acting Director pending his acceptance

Patricia Massey made a motion to offer the position of acting director to Mr. Timur Davis who is the current branch head at North Edison library

Lisa Krauze seconded.

Joyce Ship-Freeman – it has been seconded – so moved-

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Neville Arestani stated the board needed to go with the better judgment of the Board's attorney.

Maureen Ruane, the mayor's representative stated that "we have to go with the vote of the board".

President Vasant Naik wanted to move on with the agenda as prepared for the meeting.

Suzanne Cason O'Neill stated there is a resolution introduced.

Pat Massey began again reading the resolution with objections from various board members. Lisa Krauze seconded the motion.

President Vasant Naik, Secretary Neville Arestani, School Superintendent's representative Shannon Peng Treasurer David Ye and attorney for the Library Board Benjamin Zilbergeld, leave the meeting in dissent.

Joyce Ship-Freeman takes over meeting as vice president.

Patricia Massey rereads the motion:

Whereas the township of Edison has established a free public library operated by a board of trustees; whereas the board of trustees desires to terminate certain positions reporting to the board of trustees as well as certain professional services that serve on behalf of the board of trustees; whereas the board of trustees desires to terminate the executive director effective immediately; whereas the board of trustees desires to terminate its council Shain Schaffer effective immediately and whereas the board of trustees desires to eliminate the position of chief of staffing effective immediately. Now therefore be it resolved by the board of trustees of the Edison Township public library the aforementioned resettles are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length. The board of trustees hereby terminates its executive director, council and chief of staffing effective immediately. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Lisa Krauze moved the adoption of the resolution terminating the director, terminating the Board's council Shain Schaffer and eliminating the position of chief of staffing.

Suzanne Cason O'Neill seconded.

Joyce Ship-Freeman- roll call

Lisa Krauze - Yes

Suzanne Cason O'Neill - yes

Patricia Massey - yes

Maureen Ruane - yes

Joyce Ship-Freeman - yes - that is 5 yes's - all three positions are now abolished so now we may go on with the rest of the meeting.

Joyce Ship-Freeman stated that she was acting in the capacity of the president as the president was no longer available.

Budget report – not discussed

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Roll call

Maureen Ruane - yes

Patricia Massey - yes

Suzanne Cason O'Neill - yes

Lisa Krauze - yes

Joyce Ship-Freeman – yes

5 Yes's

Joyce Ship-Freeman stated there was a quorum; there were 5 votes so that solidifies that at this particular time.

Joyce Ship-Freeman motioned to adjourn.

Lisa Krauze seconded.

Adjourned: 8:33 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Stokar