

**Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Eastchester Public Library
April 28, 2021**

Present: Robert Cartolano (President), Library Director Tracy Wright, Rosetta McArdle, Astra Tudisco, Leslye Davidson, Jim Martin, Pat Murtagh and Darlene Reda.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Board met via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. The March 24, 2021 minutes were presented, reviewed and accepted with one change noted.

President's Report

President Cartolano discussed reopening plans and suggested that the Board meet in person at the next meeting, preferably on the library patio, as permitted in the updated CDC guidelines. He also noted that the library may soon be able to resume in person services for the public.

Director's Report

Director Wright stated that the majority of the 38 WLS libraries are still physically closed, but that is changing every day. More libraries are moving toward in-house browsing by appointment. President Cartolano suggested that EPL could reopen in a gradual way and adjust as confidence grows. Director Wright has been considering options and is leaning toward allowing seniors in the morning, other adults in the afternoon and children all day, using the same hours as before EPL closed. The front desk is completely surrounded by plexiglass; the only thing left is to try and separate the computers. Director Wright may deactivate the center computers for social distancing; wipes will be available. Book quarantine duration has decreased. Patrons will be assigned 30 minutes for browse by appointment, with five people at a time permitted in the library. Discussion ensued regarding increasing the number allowed in (decided to keep it at five for now), temperature taking, and listing patrons for contact tracing. The board had no objections to reopening for browsing by appointment in the manner described by Director Wright.

Trustee Martin suggested posting guidelines by entrances. Curbside pickup continues. Outdoor patio browsing events were very successful. Patrons have been asking about the reopening of the Book Sale room. Director Wright has been receiving a lot of calls from people wanting to volunteer.

The wiring project is done. Phones will be updated; the guy from Altice is coming tomorrow to install. Question: are they taking the old phones and system? Trustee Murtagh suggested asking them to remove all the old phones/wires. Leakage company did not want the job. Director Wright contacted someone else; Lothrop is also a possibility.

Rebecca Collins, medical director for Eastchester schools, offered to speak with the Board. Comptroller Donovan confirmed a \$699,000 "unapproved" fund balance for EPL.

Building Committee

Regarding the window project: unofficial delivery date is late June, early July. Trustee Murtagh said as soon as he hears back he will update the board. Installation is estimated to take 6-8

weeks. Director Wright inquired as to whether we are still going to keep moving on the sidewalk repair project. NYS Construction grant funding was moved back up to \$34 million.

Old Business

Long range planning meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, May 4 at 7 pm. All trustees are welcome. Regarding expenditures, President Cartolano noticed Comptroller Donovan tends to encumber funds before they are incurred. Children's Room report: Teresa is considering having events on the patio. Trustee Davidson asked if we could do hybrid live/zoom events.

New Business

The board is looking forward to having its next meeting on the library patio.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene E. Reda