



New Orleans Public Library
Executive Committee Meeting
MAIN Library, 3rd Floor Conference Room
Tuesday, July 5, 2022
4:30 p.m.

NOTE REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT:

The legal purpose of open meetings is to allow individuals to observe and participate in the deliberations of public bodies. Meetings of public bodies must be open to the public unless closed pursuant to a statutory exception, such as set forth in R.S. 42:16 – 42:18, which authorizes closed executive sessions. Public bodies must provide an opportunity for public comment prior to action on the agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. The governing body may adopt reasonable rules and restrictions regarding the comment period. R.S. 42:14, requires each public body, except school boards, conducting a meeting that is subject to the notice requirement of R.S. 42:19(A), to allow a public comment period prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT IS LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES PER INDIVIDUAL

MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order**
Vonda Flentroy-Rice called the July 5, 2022 Executive Committee meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

- II. **Roll Call**
Members Present: Vonda Flentroy-Rice, Andrea Neighbours, Kathleen Coverick
Members Absent: Dana Henry
Staff present: Emily Painton, Michel Thompson

- III. **Public Comments (4:45 p.m.)**
A. There were no public comments

- IV. **Executive Director Update – (Emily Painton, Executive Director, 5 minutes)**
A. Ms. Painton has created the position descriptions for the Assistant Director and it will be posted on LinkedIn and the ALA website soon. We have had eleven applicants for the Library Associate positions. Seven were interviewed, four were offered, and one accepted the position.
B. We have received bids on construction costs for Alvar, but we are waiting for approval from the City. We are waiting on repairs to the roof at Mid-City. The downstairs areas are open to the public but not the upstairs staff offices.

- C. Nix is slated to re-open on the 20th at the latest. We are waiting for Entergy to remedy accessibility to the ADA lift.
- D. We are studying NORD's organizational chart as inspiration to update ours at NOPL.
- E. Strategic Planning software has been purchased. We are actively working on developing the operational plan and may have a draft by the September board meeting. Michelle Thomas and Ms. Painton are meeting to discuss the operational plan.
- F. Ms. Neighbours asked for clarification on if we are using NORD's Civil Service classifications or if we are using their maintenance staff. Ms. Painton responded that since our organization is similar to theirs with having multiple facilities, it may benefit us to mimic their position structure.
- G. Ms. Painton was asked how the Coffee Chats are going. She responded that she has been able to get good input and Marketing is working on strategic targeting of the information they send. Improvement of internal communication is getting better as we continue to work on getting information disseminated quicker.
- H. Ms. Painton requested that Civil Service offer specialized training for managers.
- I. Ms. Neighbours asked for an update on the NORD/Desire Community collaboration. Ms. Painton responded that we are planning to use that space for book vending machines, programming space, and outreach programs. Opening is slated for September. There is another potential outreach space in New Orleans East we are checking into.
- J. Discussion ensued on how many Library Science programs are available in the state and the possibility of hiring high school students to do summer internships at NOPL.

V. Regular Board Meeting Agenda

- A. Ms. Flentroy-Rice is working on the next slate of officers

VI. Adjournment

- A. Ms. Flentroy-Rice moved to adjourn the July 5, 2022 Executive Committee meeting and Ms. Neighbours seconded. Motion carried unanimously to adjourn at 5:16 p.m.