



**South Pasadena Public Library
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
August 31, 2022**

CONVENE:

President Dean Serwin called the special meeting of the Library Board of Trustees of the South Pasadena Public Library to order in the Library Conference Room on August 31, 2022 at 7:02 p.m. Members of the public attended virtually, via Zoom, as part of the City's in-person/hybrid resumption of in-person meetings.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Trustees Present

Kenneth Gross
F.J. Pratt
Bianca Richards
Dean Serwin

Also Present

Cathy Billings, Library Director
Councilmember Diana Mahmud

EXCUSED: Secretary Annie Chang Long
Administrative Secretary Sean Faye

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. None

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2. Request to Accept the Bequest to the South Pasadena Library for Capital Improvements to the Children's Wing

President Serwin read aloud the staff report and the resolution for the bequest of longtime South Pasadena resident Bert Edward Carlyle, who passed away on January 9, 2022. The bequest includes \$100K, a Promissory Note and Deed of Trust for certain land in Craig County, OK, and real property in South Pasadena. The proceeds from the bequest may only be used for the express purpose of "a capital improvement to the Children's wing of the Library Building, in the form of an amphitheater, to be known as the 'Story Room'", and that an appropriate plaque, specifically indicated to be "from Geneva" be placed in the Library to acknowledge the gift.

Trustee Kenneth Gross expressed concern about the maintenance costs of such a capital improvement. The City Attorney will need to be consulted as to whether the bequest can be used for costs such as additional staff, utilities, and maintenance that are related to the capital improvement.

That the bequest is for a “capital improvement to the Children’s wing of the Library Building” implies that the amphitheater/story room needs to be collocated with the part of the building dedicated to children’s services, either inside the existing space or as a new addition to the building.

Vice President Bianca Richards requested there be an updated appraisal of the two South Pasadena properties named in the bequest. Councilmember Diana Mahmud said one of the properties currently has a tenant. The sale of these properties will be conducted through the probate process.

A public comment was made Sally Kilby. She said a “Story Time” capital improvement is not considered to be one of the capital improvements desperately needed for the Library. She expressed hope that an outdoor amphitheater be constructed with these funds that is suitable for all ages.

President Serwin said that the will’s conditions have to be met in order to receive the funds. The City Attorney will provide guidance as the process moves forward.

Motion by Library Board Trustee Kenneth Gross, seconded by Library Board Vice President Bianca Richards, to adopt Resolution 2022-001 to accept the bequest to the South Pasadena Library from Bert Edward Carlyle.

AYES: Gross, Pratt, Richards, Serwin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Long
ABSTAIN: None

Motion by Library Board President Dean Serwin, seconded by Library Board Vice President Bianca Richards, to request that the City Council direct staff to establish a fund to receive the monies from the Bequest to ensure the preservation of the funds for the intended purpose of making specified capital improvements to the Children’s Wing.

AYES: Gross, Pratt, Richards, Serwin
NOES: None
ABSENT: Long
ABSTAIN: None

ADJOURNMENT: President Dean Serwin adjourned the special meeting of the Library Board of Trustees on August 31, 2022 at 7:38 p.m.

Minutes approved BRP as written.

Minutes approved _____ as corrected.

DocuSigned by:

Bianca Richards, President

10/14/2022

President

Date

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