

Meeting 3/31/2020

Present: Virginia Tyson, President (via telephone)
Jacques LeBlanc, Vice President
Deborah Cannarelli
Colleen Hogan, Secretary
Jacqueline Franke (via telephone)
Christine Buff (via telephone)
Marcie Litjens, Director
Bob Chesnut, Head of Adult Reference

Virginia Tyson: Hi Everyone, I'm going to call the meeting to order at 7:07. Do I have a motion to approve the agenda?

Deborah Cannarelli: I'll make it.

Colleen Hogan: Second

Virginia Tyson: All in favor?

Deborah Cannarelli: Yes

Jacques LeBlanc: Yes

Colleen Hogan: Yes

Virginia Tyson: Can I have a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting on March 27th?

Deborah Cannarelli: Motion, I'll make it.

Colleen Hogan: Second

Christine Buff: Just to me a favor and say who makes the motion and who seconds as it is hard to hear?

Deborah Cannarelli: OK. Deb makes the motion.

Christine Buff: Thanks Deb.

Colleen Hogan: Colleen makes second.

Christine Buff: Thanks Colleen:

Virginia Tyson: All in favor?

Christine Buff: Yes

Colleen Hogan: Yes.

Jacques LeBlanc: Yes.

Deborah Cannarelli: Yes.

Virginia Tyson: Reports. I have no reports. Marcie, are there any other reports or trustee issues or questions?

Christine Buff: No

Virginia Tyson: All right, Marcie you are on.

Marcie Litjens: Ok, so, we're all here because we need to discuss the budget, due to the executive order. We know that we cannot hold our budget is plans or budget hearing on April 6th, and we can't hold our budget vote on April 14th so we need to make a decision what we're going to do going forward. The budgets have been postponed until at least June 1st.

Christine Buff: Ok.

Virginia Tyson: And OK, what is the consensus? Do you want to run a budget vote? Do you want to run it as just a trustee? Do you want to see if system says to carry it over till next year? I think that we should leave the budget at zero and I think we know, at some point, unless system says that we can carryover jobs for a year, and then we need to vote on a trustee. I don't know how anybody else feels.

Marcie Litjens: The options are, we can hold our budget later in June, and we can run it as planned with the 1.79% increase with the trustee election. Perhaps, we want to adjust our budget a little bit with the pandemic going on and re-evaluate it. Or we could just use last year's appropriations and see what happens with the trustees' seat. Waiting for direction from state public officers' law for clarification on that.

Jacques Le Blanc: If we were, I think we should postpone it. Obviously. And I'm for all the information you gave, and I think we should go to zero, I would rather do a budget vote, and say that we're cutting things. Not hurting programs, but looking to trim the original budget to make it zero. I like that better than rolling it over, unless it gets to the point in June, where there's still, this is going on, and they say, you can't have a vote. You can't get people together for a vote. Then I can see you're getting a clear direction at the end, but I would suggest that we have a vote in late June. Maybe the 23rd, or even as late as possible, to give us as much time, but I'm open to whatever are the dates. But, I think maybe that would be the best thing. But I want to make sure that people know, we're not going to hurt programs that, you know, that we're going to run everything, but we're cutting other things on whether you want to suggest other things that are just saying we're were delaying different purchases or whatever so that we can keep our programs going.

Marcie Litjens: Programs is such a vital part of our library.

Jacques LeBlanc: Absolutely.

Marcie Litjens I can't imagine. I don't think that's the right direction to go in. I do have one concern. This pandemic has just shaken our worlds like. We don't, we've never known before. And I don't even know what next month is going to bring, get alone six months from now is going to bring. So, depending on what kind of world we live in, we might not be holding programs and in even the same manner. That we hold now, just, for example, not to digress. But our librarians, right now, are, in the process, working with our programmers, to present programs virtually, so there are still costs incurred with that. It's just what people are going to experience, just like our Board meeting right now. They're going to experience programs in a different way. You know, that's new to everybody. So, but programs, I think, is the least we don't want to change the programming. That is not a good idea, in my opinion.

Jacques LeBlanc: Absolutely, I mean, from my standpoint, I agree with that. I think there's a lot going to go ahead.

Virginia Tyson: If we wanted to wait, and make a decision about the vote, how many weeks before the vote do, we have to make a decision to put all of the paperwork into place.

Marcie Litjens: We have to go, I believe it's seven weeks before the vote and start advertising. So you need a good week or so for me to get the illegals in and make sure that they're in the papers. And then, the first running has to be seven weeks before.

Virginia Tyson: Ok, so, that puts us to, about, the end of April, that we could make a decision, as a vote. We have another 2 or 3

weeks before we would have to make a decision and system might also decide whether or not you're extending the trustee time. So, I don't know how anybody else feels, but would you rather wait for another couple of weeks, and then make a decision about the vote.

Marcie Litjens: We do have time.

Colleen Hogan: We don't have to, if we don't have to put anything in writing yet, it may be a good idea to wait. I think that's a good idea.

Christine Buff: I'm going with that.

Virginia Tyson: And we can then look towards Longwood who notified the public that the vote was cancelled and their wording was very well put. And that, you know, they would let them know, at a later date, if, when it was scheduled, we could send out something like that, if you wanted to, and that is an extra mailing. But at least we're proactive in telling the public that we do plan to look into this longer or are going to have a vote, but we don't need to make the decision right away. And we will let them know at a later date. I don't know if that's something you want to do. We don't have to decide tonight. We have a little time to decide whether or not we want to do this.

Marcie Litjens: Yeah, it does give me the opportunity to look at the budget again and reworked some numbers. And, you know, if we're going to keep the same numbers, I can re-evaluate where we can cut some costs in places.

Virginia Tyson: OK. How does everybody else feel? What do you think?

Deborah Cannarelli: That's fine? What do you think you would have more taxpayers this coming year anyway? Do you think it would be more? There's more with the condos and everything that erupted there.

Marcie Litjens: Do you mean with the Center Moriches or contract patrons?

Deborah Cannarelli: With Center

Marcie Litjens: Well we just go by what the, um Brookhaven town goes by.

Deborah Cannarelli: Ok.

Marcie Litjens: Yeah.

Deborah Cannarelli Ok, so is the same?

Marcie Litjens: And then of course I can't go over 1.81% for our library as an increase. That's the max without having a supermajority.

Deborah Cannarelli: And You don't have a guarantee on the other districts right?

Marcie Litjens: Nope.

Deborah Cannarelli: OK.

Marcie Litjens: No that will always have to wait.

Virginia Tyson: You want to wait another couple of weeks to make that decision?

Jacques LeBlanc: I think that is good. I think that sounds like a logical thing. Things have been changing day by day. We were, you know, a little bit under pressure to do it tonight or around now, so we did another couple of weeks. Things could be very different. Like you say, Ginny, we might have more direction from system as to what to do.

Virginia Tyson: Yeah, and then also you have to watch the date, because if the school is talking about doing it on the 30th, everybody is going to try to do it before the first of July. And then I heard something about the primaries are being moved to the 23rd so you don't want to do it on that day either.

Jacques LeBlanc: Yeah, I forgot about that.

Virginia Tyson: Well this will seem to work the best.

Marcie Litjens: Yeah, the school, the latest they can do it is June 30th. And so, unless that changes, the primaries are definitely going to be held right now as of the 23rd. I mean, maybe the schools are going to do it on the 23rd or the 16th, but the latest right now is the 30th.

Virginia Tyson: So, do you think that's better as a board? Do you want to hold off for a couple of weeks to make a decision on this, so we get more direction?

Colleen Hogan: Yes.

Jacques LeBlanc: Yes, Yes.

Christine Buff: Ok, yes, from Christine.

Marcie Litjens: All right, so I take the opportunity then to restart re-looking into the numbers.

Virginia Tyson: So, as far as all business in the budget, we're going to table it for another couple of weeks, and then we discuss it. We will set a date for another meeting at our meeting on June 6th. Ok?

Marcie Litjens: April 6th, Correct.

Virginia Tyson: OK. We will meet again on June 6th and we will discuss possibly a date for the budget. Maybe we'll have more information then.

Virginia Tyson: That worked for everybody?

Colleen Hogan: Are we meeting April 6th?

Virginia Tyson: Yeah. I am sorry. April 6th. I don't even know what month it is anymore.

Jacqueline Franke: Just a quick question, its Jackie. Was April 6th supposed to be the budget hearing date?

Marcie Litjens: That is correct.

Virginia Tyson: Yes.

Jacqueline Franke: So, but you're still having it, even though the budget been moved?

Marcie Litjens: Yeah. It is out. It is not a budget hearing.

Virginia Tyson: Even if it is a short meeting, so that we can discuss anything that comes up in the next week.

Jacqueline Franke: I am just clarifying. Thank you.

Virginia Tyson: OK.

Colleen Hogan: And at that meeting do we decided, when is the next meeting for us to make a decision. Or do you want to make a decision now?

Virginia Tyson: We don't even have to make it part of the next meeting. We have until close to the end of the month. Before we have to make the decision.

Colleen Hogan: OK.

Jacques LeBlanc: So, the meeting on April 6th would not take place, or will still take place, just to discuss anything? And then make another announcement for a budget hearing, and how do you do a budget hearing when you're doing it virtually?

Marcie Litjens: The budget hearing is not really, I can't hold our budget, so that point is kinda moot, but I do think yes, but just because everything is changing so rapidly, I do think it's good to meet on April 6th.

Jacques LeBlanc: OK.

Marcie Litjens: Just to touch base and make sure everyone is happy with the direction that we're going in and, and touching base, because it's just, I can't keep up with all the information.

Jacques LeBlanc: Yeah.

Marcie Litjens: I want to make sure that you guys are well informed.

Jacques LeBlanc: Great.

Virginia Tyson: Is everybody good with that?

Jacque LeBlanc: Yes

Colleen Hogan: Yes

Virginia Tyson: Ok, so the budget is tabled for now so we don't need to make that motion. Our next meeting, then, will be on April 6 at 7 o'clock. And I need a motion to adjourn at 7:20.

Deborah Cannarelli: I make a motion.

Virginia Tyson: Second?

Colleen Hogan: Second

Virginia Tyson: All in favor?

Jacques LeBlanc: Yes.

Colleen Hogan: Yes

Deborah Cannarelli: Yes.