



**Library Board of Trustees**  
**Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Via Zoom**  
**Monday, July 18, 2022, 5:00pm – 6:00pm**

**Trustees Present**

Jon Buchan  
Rob Harrington  
Joe Helweg, Chair  
Gloria Kelley  
Dr. Kimmerly Martin  
Tracy Montross  
Dr. Amy Hawn Nelson  
Charles Thomas  
Dr. Ricky Woods

**Absent**

Ailen Arreaza  
Brandon Neal

**Staff Present**

Karen Beach  
Kevin Bittle  
Shelley Book  
Monica Brown  
David Dillard  
Michael Engelbrecht  
Harold Escalante  
Jenni Gaisbauer  
Krystal Green  
Meryle Leonard  
Angie Myers  
Emily Nanney  
Chantez Neymoss  
John O'Connor  
Keisha Portis  
Elesha Roupp  
Kathy Scott  
Holly Summers Gil  
Kim Sykes-Joseph  
Hillary Swierc  
Tony Tallent  
Marcellus Turner  
Lonna Vines  
Viviette White  
Martha Yesowitch

**Others Present**

Mark Kutny

Joe welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting at 12:00pm.

**Absence with Cause**

Mr. Helweg requested a motion to approve absence with cause for Ailen Arreaza. On a motion by Jon Buchan and seconded by Dr. Ricky Woods, the Trustees unanimously approved their absence with cause.

## Minutes

Mr. Helweg requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on June 27, 2022, and On a motion by Tracy Montross and seconded by Charles Thomas, the Trustees unanimously approved the June 27, 2022, meeting minutes.

## Chair Report

Mr. Helweg provided the following updates:

- Board of Trustees Leadership
  - Thank you for allowing us time to reset the board leadership plan following the announcement of Brandon Neal's resignation and relocation.
- FY 2023 BOT Meeting Schedule
  - Rolled out the new meeting schedule for the end of 2022 and beginning of 2023. Meetings will continue to be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from 4:00pm – 5:30pm unless a holiday falls on that particular day. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will be in person at library locations around the system and the others will remain virtual.
- FY 2023 Board of Trustees Committee Assignments

BOARD COMMITTEES	SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES	CHAIR	MEMBERS	STAFF LEAD
Executive	Make decisions on behalf of the Board of Trustees as needed	Joe Helweg	Ailen Arreaza Rob Harrington Tracy Montross Charles Thomas	Marcellus Turner
CML Foundation Board*	Consult, advise and oversee fundraising and awareness strategies and activities of the Library Foundation that support the Library	Gene Cochrane	Joe Helweg Marcellus Turner	Jenni Gaisbauer
Customer & Community Impact	Review, consult, advise and oversee the Library's programming and service offerings to ensure they improve lives and build a stronger community. Oversee prioritized actions in support of CML's Racial Equity Framework and Implementation Plan.	Dr. Amy Hawn Nelson	Gloria Kelly Ailen Arreaza Ashley Hardee, <i>Ex Officio</i>	Caitlin Moen (Pamela McCarter – DE&I Staff Support)
Finance	Consult, advise and oversee Library financial practices, transactions, decisions, and funding sources and trends.	Charles Thomas	Preethi Srinivasan, <i>Ex Officio</i>	Angie Myers
Governance	Recommend Library Trustee candidates based on regular review of the Board's and organization's current and future governance needs.	Tracy Montross	Joe Helweg Charles Thomas Rob Harrington	Marcellus Turner
ImaginOn Management	Oversee management and activities at ImaginOn jointly with our partner, Children's Theater of Charlotte	Kimmery Martin	N/A ( <i>contract calls for one representative from CML BOT</i> )	Jenni Gaisbauer
Real Estate	Consult, advise and oversee Library real estate strategies, planning, practices, transactions, and decisions	Ailen Arreaza	Dr. Ricky Woods Jon Buchan George Sistrunk, <i>Ex Officio</i> Walker Morris, <i>Ex Officio</i>	David Dillard

- Action Item- Approval of the FY 2023 Library Officer Slate.
  - Board Chair- Joseph Helweg
  - Board Vice Chair- Charles Thomas
  - CEO/Library Director- Marcellus Turner
  - Chief Library Services Officer- Caitlin Moen
  - Secretary- Shelley Book
  - Treasurer- Angie Myers

**On a motion by Charles Thomas, seconded by Tracy Montross, the Board unanimously approved the FY 2023 Library Officers Slate.**

**Committee Reports**

**Real Estate Committee**

David Dillard provided the following updates:

- Pineville Update
  - We anticipate opening in the fall to the public and will plan for a few weeks of soft opening before we have a grand opening event.
  - The Town of Pineville plans to occupy the second floor of the municipal offices and their town hall space so in early August the lobby will be complete, and the upstairs will be complete, and they are planning for some kind of ribbon cutting ceremony and we will plan to have some library staff on hand for that.
  - The library’s interiors are completed including carpet, paint, millwork, lighting etc.
  - The opening day collection has been selected and ordered along with the furniture and AV equipment.
- University City Update
  - Making good progress negotiating final terms of all the agreements
  - We have extended our lease with the hospital authority so will not have to close the UC branch before the new location opens.

**CEO Report**

Marcellus Turner provided the following updates:

- Emery Ortiz will be joining us at our next Board of Trustees meeting as our new Chief of Strategy and Innovation.
- Industry Update- ALA Conference Take Aways
  - Several of us were able to travel to Washington DC to participate
  - Major topics included:
    - Equity and Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)
    - Review of policies and practices around book banning and protests
    - Critical Race Theory

The board discussed how other library systems are addressing EDI. We are farther along than many systems in that our task force has already met and created recommendations. Other conversations included how CM Library handles book banning requests and protests. Mr. Turner agreed to provide the protocol for both of these issues to the Board.

- Mecklenburg County’s Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Efforts
  - Angie Myers provided the following highlights:
    - Mecklenburg County has hired LaShaun Carter to lead the County’s efforts around EDI.
    - Mr. Carter has fully embraced the County’s equity vision and mission statements

- He is also looking to build on the principles of the Government Alliance on Race and Race Equity using other credible models
- He has tiered his work with county departments and agencies and the Library is in tier 1 which is an acknowledgement of a lot of good work the Library has already done.
- He will work with the County's existing Equity Action Plan and create a 2.0 version

**Library Director Report**

Kevin Bittle introduced our 4 new Branch Leaders, Monica Jackson Brown (ST), Viviette White (HG), Lonna Vines (MPK), and Alesha Lackey (AWR). Each new leader shared a story of impact from their branch.

**Foundation Update**

Jenni Gaisbauer provided the following updates:

- New Foundation Leadership
  - Chair- Gene Cochrane
  - Vice Chair- Helen Kimbrough
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair- Selena Giovanelli
  - Secretary/Treasurer- Holly Stubbing
  - Immediate Past Chair- Jennifer Green
- Campaign Update
  - New Main Building- \$93,113,217
  - Support Services Center- \$15,000,000
  - Technology Programs & Innovation- \$1,971,384
  - Endowment- \$1,034,384
  - Annual Support- \$6,658,143
  - Total- \$117,776,951
- The Foundation received a \$1MM donation last week
- Results & Accomplishments
  - Foundation had its biggest year so far raising over \$15.5 MM for CommonSpark
  - Gained 3 new Dewey Circle planned gifts totaling \$298,000
  - Surpassed goals for Library Giving Day and One For The Books
  - Significant increases in sustaining donors and Carnegie donors

**At 6:00pm, Joe Helweg adjourned the meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marcellus Turner  
CEO