

Eric Sharrin:

Justice for all. [crosstalk 00:00:03] Okay. So, next up on the agenda I'd like to just move the appointment of the trustee to add to the minutes. So if we have public, is there any public comment at this time?

Eugenia Schatoff:

I haven't received any, we also have a public comment portion at the end of the meeting as well.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay. In that case let's review our minutes from January 25th, February 8th and February 17th. So first January 28th, do we have any modifications or changes to the minutes?

Donna Warren:

I don't.

William Morris:

You mean the 25th, right?

Donna Warren:

[crosstalk 00:01:27] Yeah, the 25th.

Eric Sharrin:

[inaudible 00:01:36] okay, and I think all of us would... on each meeting, so we're going to wait till the end and we'll just make one motion to accept all the minutes. So next the minutes for February 8th.

William Morris:

Fine to me as well.

Donna Warren:

Me too.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, and lastly the minutes for February 17th.

Donna Warren:

Yes, the record.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, very good. So if I can have a motion to accept the minutes for January 25th or February 8th-

Donna Warren:

I make a motion.

Eric Sharrin:

Thank you, who is seconding? All in favor? Okay, minutes have been accepted and put into record. Next up on the agenda I would like to... Well, it's been moved up. We have the appointment of trustee. There is a resolution which I will read. Give me a second, just to get the resolution to read and I had it.

Wendy Courtney:

I can read it if you want.

Donna Warren:
Or I could read it too Eric if you want.

Eric Sharrin:
No, I've got it, here it is-

Donna Warren:
Okay.

Eric Sharrin:
But thank you. Thank you. The following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of Pearl River Public Library on February 22nd 2021. Resolved that the Board of Trustees of River Public Library in a regular meeting held on February 22nd 2021, approves the appointment of Irene D'Anna-

Donna Warren:
Mm-mm (negative)

Eric Sharrin:
How's it pronounced Irene?

Donna Warren:
D'Anna.

Eric Sharrin:
Thank you, Irene D'Anna as a trustee and member of the Pearl River Public Library Board of Trustees effective February 23rd 2021. So this will become effective tomorrow but you'll partake tonight.

Wendy Courtney:
No, actually I looked it up, I can take the oath tonight and... yes I looked up if... I looked up how to do notaries about online so yes and I emailed Irene already about it, and she's going to show me ID, take the oath and then email me the scanned signed oath, which I can then notarize and backdate to today, because I actually saw her do it today.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay.

William Morris:
So effectively beyond tonight [inaudible 00:04:28]

Wendy Courtney:
It should be effective today, the 22nd, yes.

Irene D'Anna:
Let me know when you're ready.

Wendy Courtney:

Do you want to read it or do you want me to read it to you?

Irene D'Anna:
No, I have it in front of me.

Wendy Courtney:
Okay.

Irene D'Anna:
I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York, and I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of the trustee of the Pearl River Public Library according to the best of my ability, Irene D'Anna.

Wendy Courtney:
Okay, if you could just hold your license up to the camera or-

Irene D'Anna:
All right sweetheart.

Wendy Courtney:
Okay.

Irene D'Anna:
That's me. Still looking good.

Wendy Courtney:
Okay, and then I'd need just to see you sign it.

Irene D'Anna:
Okay, no worries. Subscribed and sworn to-

Wendy Courtney:
No, I'll take care of that part when you scan it and email it back to me.

Irene D'Anna:
Okay, so there you go.

Wendy Courtney:
So [crosstalk 00:05:42] scan it and email it back to me.

Irene D'Anna:
Okay.

Wendy Courtney:
It's all done.

Irene D'Anna:
All right, beautiful.

Wendy Courtney:
Congratulations.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay.

Irene D'Anna:
Thank you so much. [inaudible 00:05:54] I'm sorry, do you need my license as well?

Wendy Courtney:
No.

Eric Sharrin:
No, what I'd like to do is to get a vote on the resolution.

William Morris:
Yeah, that would be good. Donna you want to make the motion?

Donna Warren:
Yes, I make a motion to accept the resolution.

William Morris:
I'll second it.

Eric Sharrin:
All in favor to accept resolution as amended with today'?

William Morris:
Aye.

Donna Warren:
Aye.

Eric Sharrin:
All right, very good. Irene congratulations for joining us-

Donna Warren:
Congratulations Irene.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Welcome. Congratulations.

Irene D'Anna:
Thank you. I hope I can be of service.

Eric Sharrin:
Thank you. So next on the agenda we'd like to go through the treasurer's report. So do we have the treasurer's report? Yep, there it is. Okay, so Magda we have everything on here so you don't have to read every single item

that you already included in the treasurer's report. If you'd like to point out anything addition or anything you'd like us to really focus in on, please say so.

Magda Parvulescu:

Oh, not really, no. I don't have any audition except on the notes that it's a future payment that we will do for vacation pay back, and no not as of today, no addition.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay. Is there anything else you'd like us to focus on?

Magda Parvulescu:

Anything else? I'm kind of concerned in the book line but I'm not concerned. I mean it's the beginning of the new year which for the collection. That's all and the book line we spent \$7,126 this month [inaudible 00:08:15] So which is kind of high comparing with the previous month but that's all.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay.

Magda Parvulescu:

And I think it's nothing unusual. I think it's just to bring it to your attention that's all.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, and then just the question on the periodical with the museum passes. One, I'm just curious if museums are open and people are going-

Magda Parvulescu:

Yes, they're actually... they do give you private visiting tour, so you have a schedule online yeah.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay.

Magda Parvulescu:

[crosstalk 00:08:55] yeah that's why we had to pay the renewal because-

Eric Sharrin:

Okay.

Magda Parvulescu:

In case that the economy will open hopefully soon.

Eric Sharrin:

But you can make use of these passes, and you can make a reservation have a private-

Magda Parvulescu:

Yes, you can make a reservation. That's true.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, thank you it's good to know.

Magda Parvulescu:
Yeah.

Eric Sharrin:
All right, does anybody have any questions on the treasurer's report? If not, I'd like to move on to the list of warrants.

William Morris:
I reviewed them I think overall they look fine. Do you want me to make a motion to-

Donna Warren:
I actually just have one quick question before we do.

Eric Sharrin:
No, on the motion. Go ahead, on the question

Donna Warren:
Just a general question. I guess it's for Eugenia, with the RCLS fees for the first quarter, I mean what exactly are we paying for at this point? For the \$8,000, some odd dollars that we're paying? We're actually \$9,000 overall. I see telecommunications and then the general ANSER fees.

Magda Parvulescu:
Yes, I can give you [inaudible 00:10:27] for telecommunication that we pay something in here, and the first quarter fees. And also we have the internet, phone and internet related to our RCLS, they run a lot of reports, they pull data for the library. So those are for the first quarter.

Eugenia Schatoff:
And also I would add that if you recall because we went through and did an evaluation of computers in the building and how staff uses them, that our annual fees have been significantly reduced and that \$8,000, I believe last year our quarterly payment was upwards of \$12,000-

Donna Warren:
No, I think you're right [crosstalk 00:11:21]

Eugenia Schatoff:
The primary costs, the largest part of it is every computer that we have that has access to the library loan software, we pay an annual fee on each of those computers of about \$1,000 per computer. So the bulk of that is made up on these fees.

Donna Warren:
I just was curious-

Eugenia Schatoff:
It's just for maintaining the systems catalog and inter-library loan.

Donna Warren:
Okay, I didn't know if possibly with all the COVID closures if they took anything into account, or lessened fees or if there was anything from our RCLS that would note the pandemic, or the situation where everybody was closed for a good period of time especially-

Eugenia Schatoff:

Unfortunately no, and in fact they've already for warned us that because of the reductions of state aid to the library systems throughout the state, that we're going to see significant increases annually for the next three to five years because their income at the state level has been severely and drastically reduced.

Donna Warren:

I think we may have to answer that in a way that they're not going to be happy about hearing either though, if that's the case. If they keep going up and up just to cover their cost, and we're not getting any more for our money what are we doing?

Eric Sharrin:

Well, we can vote on that-

Donna Warren:

Yeah.

Eric Sharrin:

On the budget when it comes due-

Donna Warren:

Yes, yes. I just want to bring out the fact that, that's not okay just as far as I'm concerned.

Eric Sharrin:

Right, and duly noted thank you. So if there's nothing else on the warrants and treasurer's report let's take up... before we accept everything, do we have any questions on the spreadsheet? With the monthly cash flow spreadsheet.

William Morris:

Do you want me to make a motion then, if there are no questions?

Eric Sharrin:

If there are no questions, yes go ahead, Will-

William Morris:

I make a motion to adopt the treasurer's report and the list of warrants.

Eric Sharrin:

Thank you.

Donna Warren:

I'll second.

Eric Sharrin:

All in favor?

William Morris:

Aye.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, none opposed. Okay. And so it is on to the next item on our agenda.

Wendy Courtney:

I just have a question. Did Irene vote on that also?

Eric Sharrin:

Irene did not vote on that one.

Wendy Courtney:

Okay.

William Morris:

You're muted, Irene.

Irene D'Anna:

My bad. Am I allowed to vote today?

Eric Sharrin:

yeah, you are allowed to vote with that going forward.-

Irene D'Anna:

Okay.

Eric Sharrin:

The meeting minutes you couldn't vote on because you weren't at those meetings.

Irene D'Anna:

Okay.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Okay, and don't forget anything that you don't feel comfortable voting on yet, you can also abstain. That's an option for you as well.

Irene D'Anna:

Yeah, I was going to actually maybe have like a review session of some of those Excel spreadsheets to make sure I know what I'm talking about.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay.

Irene D'Anna:

And then maybe I could vote better.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, very good. There are some resolutions later on so that will be easy enough to participate in and you'll understand those. So, very good, thank you. Thank you for asking and clearing it up. All right, now we're just going to review the statistical requests, we're not voting on this just review them. Just go through the agenda

very quickly Irene. The Director's Report is just to report, also we do not vote on that. We do have a resolution for a date of a budget vote and trustee election which we will vote on. And the rest have many reports we have so... and then we also have a resolution to override a tax cap. So those two resolutions are what you will be voting on.

Irene D'Anna:
Okay.

Eric Sharrin:
I just wanted to give you a little preview, and with that said let's get to our statistical reports. Does anybody have any comments or questions?

William Morris:
One thing I didn't get was the statistical report. Is that coming later?

Donna Warren:
It looks different Bill, right? Do you know-

Eugenia Schatoff:
I think there was... I just noticed that myself unfortunately because Deb put together the packets kind of. . . We had the unforeseen circumstances with Wendy. Deb put together the packets, and she didn't include the statistical report in the email. So I can send them to you or Wendy can send them to you today but as we finish.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay, so we'll bypass the statistical reports and move on to the directors report.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Okay, so a couple of recent items of note that didn't make it into the report. To answer your question that you brought up last meeting Eric about the Adobe, we did look into limiting our licensing as we haven't had patrons in the building using the lab for extended periods of time, which is why we had initially purchased as many licenses as we did. So three of the licenses... of the total licenses that we had we're going to retain for staff use primarily for graphics in design, and then the remainder, we canceled the subscriptions. So that's just the follow up to the Adobe question from last meeting. We did have an incident in the beginning of the month where the heat failed. And so the boiler is having issues with the flame burner. So it's going to cost just around \$10,000 to make the repair that needs to be made to keep the heat going.

Unfortunately, while this is being worked on, we will have to close. So we might open partially on the day that the work is being done. We'll schedule it for early in the morning so hopefully it does not take too long. And then the-

Eric Sharrin:
Go ahead. And when you schedule that if I could just make a suggestion, look at the weather and make sure you schedule it on a day where it won't be dropping below freezing. So it's coming to that point where we're going to have more days above freezing than we will have below freezing. Just a recommendation.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Yep, absolutely. And the big... the key concern with the boiler is always the safety issues involved in the gas, carbon monoxide, all that other stuff. So we've been really on top of making sure that it's running as best as it possibly can. And then the last thing that we're continuing to work on which I had brought up in last meeting

was that we are planning on making a capital technology purchase. So we are planning on purchasing laptops for employees, specifically those full time employees who are working from home. Currently, they're using Chromebooks and so we did discuss using technology capital funds to purchase those laptops. So that's something that we've been looking into. Other than what you guys read in the in the director's report, we're very excited about the story time studio grant that we got. So we're very excited we're going to be setting up the learning lab to be able to do these remote story times with all of the equipment that we won. So we're really excited about upping our game. We did have a staff resignation, so there's a nice little note from Jennifer Daddio who's no longer with the library.

Eugenia Schatoff:

And we also included some wonderful feedback that we received from people about chair yoga, and then also the adult tech class which if you recall is grant funded through an adult grant that we received to provide job training and advanced skills in coding and robotics for those looking to re-qualify and re-certify themselves professionally. And one of the best successes of that class is that we actually partnered with veterans affairs, so we had a fair number of veterans in the classes who were looking to re-qualify themselves for this new post COVID job market.

So we consider that to be very successful, it's going to continue to run throughout the spring.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay. If I could comment, when you are purchasing the laptops, are you doing this through RCLS or are you doing this independently?

Eugenia Schatoff:

So we don't have any technology infrastructure, we don't have a tech department, we don't have anybody who really does tech stuff for us. So we do have an outside company that comes in to maintain our wireless and help with our computer sometimes. But other than using RCLS, we're really limited in our options. So in addition to that RCLS does have purchasing power, because they purchase for the cooperative. So the pricing on the laptops that they can get is very competitive. So we're currently... we know that we'll probably purchase the laptops through RCLS, we're pricing out who will service the laptops, so we are entertaining spec sheets on what it would cost to independent companies who currently service other libraries, how much it would cost them to service the laptops. But we are also looking at RCLS potentially as being the service provider for the laptops.

Eugenia Schatoff:

I would also like to note that these laptops would not have the catalog software on them. So it wouldn't be that large annual costs that we have to pay for all of the computers that have the full catalog on them. So those are the computers that I was talking about that make up the bulk of our ANSER fees. It would not be an annual fee anywhere close to that.

Eric Sharrin:

Irene, I saw you raise your hand.

Irene D'Anna:

I have some techie experience. Can I ask a quick question? It's just a novice question. Is this for employees that are full time working from home.

Eugenia Schatoff:

So we have full time employees, we do not have any full time employees who are fully working full time from home. We do have a staggered work schedule due to COVID. So we have alternating days to limit which

employees are in the building when, so on those days that employees are not in the building they are working from home, and they're currently working on Chromebooks.

Eric Sharrin:

If I may ask, how many laptops are you looking to purchase?

Eugenia Schatoff:

At this time 11.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, when you do the purchase you'll make sure that they all have some internet security on them. I'm sure if you're getting it from... I don't want to make any assumptions, but if you get it from RCLS I hope they put on the... either Norton or McAfee or whatever they use. I would personally not use Kaspersky just because it's a company that originates in Russia, and I just think that any company that originates from Russia may have the Russian government in it because nobody succeeds there without having something to have to pay. My recommendation is not that one, but also Microsoft Office products. So will that be picked up by RCLS?

Eugenia Schatoff:

So, Microsoft Office... so RCLS is currently transitioning to 365. So that all of these laptops would be purchased with the intent of being 365 compatible on 365 associated laptops.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, so that's a monthly subscription fee for each laptop depending upon what we wanted to have, we could actually split-

Eugenia Schatoff:

It's for each email. It's attached to each email address.

Eric Sharrin:

No, no I understand that but depends... we just use Word, Excel, PowerPoint, are we going to be using Teams? Are we going to be using... you have a lot of choices if you ever look at office 365 for business?

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yeah, so they've selected what's going to be available to us, and that includes Teams and the whole Microsoft Office package. There's different levels of licensing so they do have all non-confidential staff is allowed to have the free licensing. What you would be paying for is for the email address because it's all cloud based so it's \$7 per email address.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, very good. And then... I'm sorry I also have a little bit of a techie background. So a couple of more questions, are we going to be limiting as to what websites can we go... people can go to? It should be if it's a business laptop it should be used for business, gaming websites should be off base. I know personally where I work you can't go gaming, we lock down anybody who would think to go to an inappropriate adult only content. You can't do... like alcohol and firearms are also banned at work, they really want to keep you focused on doing work when you're on this laptop. It's a work laptop. And we also have very... the internet security that we have really keeps you from going to a website that might have been compromised, that you don't realize is compromised. So it protects us that way.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yeah, absolutely. I would just also point out that to date, so like as of today you do have a lot of staff who have been on Chromebooks this whole time. So I'm saying whatever we get is going to be a vast improvement to current because we weren't fully ready to deploy and at home workforce with COVID. So yes absolutely we will limit websites.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, and Irene I think I saw your hand up, go ahead and then Donna.

Irene D'Anna:

These 11 laptops that are going to these 11 employees, do these employees also have a computer at the library?

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yes.

Irene D'Anna:

May I make a very humble recommendation? They could actually connect directly to the computers in the library.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yes.

Irene D'Anna:

Have you investigated that option?

Eugenia Schatoff:

We have that. Yep, we already have it, we use a product called Flashtop to be able mirror your desktop so that you can access your files and all your applications.

Irene D'Anna:

So what's nice about that is that you don't need to purchase additional software or have additional maintenance, you can have a very minimal footprint in your home. But all the security and all the software and all this stuff is located in the library in the computer that you're already set up with. Have you guys considered the pros and cons of that?

Eugenia Schatoff:

So we already have a mirroring product that we use already with the Chromebooks. So people are already mirroring their desktops when they're using their Chromebooks.

Irene D'Anna:

So why would they need a laptop at home if they're in essence like kind of... I'm just trying to understand.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Because the Chromebook is probably about this big and it's... they're already five years old.

Irene D'Anna:

Okay.

Eugenia Schatoff:

And they're not... I mean we've got Wendy and Deb who tried to work on Chromebooks and it didn't work successfully. It's time to... if we're going to have a workforce that is working at home, it's time to provide actual equipment for that purpose. The Chromebooks were never intended to be for work at home, they were intended to be for the Learning Lab.

Irene D'Anna:

Yeah, I understand how hard it is to do screen sharing on a Chromebook because of the screen size and just the usability of it. However, purchasing a very lightweight device in the home but still connecting to the computer in the library could save you so much in IT support and licensing and security that even though you... I mean I'm not sure what kind of laptops you're purchasing, it's just a lot of... you could actually get a very inexpensive kind of solution and then just access the computer at the library that has it all, as though you are at the library. I mean just something to consider because I know maintenance of machines especially ones that are in people's homes is like really hard.

Eric Sharrin:

Right, and if I may I'm just realizing we're turning into a committee meeting here.

Irene D'Anna:

Oh, sorry.

Eric Sharrin:

No, no, no fault of your own. It's just to move this along, these are all good questions but I think maybe creating like a little Ad Hoc committee, with Irene and myself on it might be helpful to help advise at least as you do go through the process. We both have some expertise in this area and might be able to advise you on it, or at least see what you're doing and help out with that. So that's what I'm talking about but I did see Donna raise her hand so I don't want to-

Donna Warren:

I just wanted to throw in real quick, I was wondering if we could possibly consider servicing by Eagle Tech, who's a Pearl River company that we have here if we didn't use RCLS?

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yeah, we can certainly get an estimate from them. We're shopping around... even for the maintenance we're shopping around.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay.

Donna Warren:

Yeah, I would imagine they'd want to be helpful. That's all.

Eric Sharrin:

Thank you for that suggestion Donna. Okay, so to help I guess table any further discussion on this, I guess at the end of the new business I'll work on that new committee to help with the purchase of these computers. With that does anybody have any other questions about the directors report?

William Morris:

Comments from the patrons on the program and that was nice to hear.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yes, and people I have to say because we have reopened to the public for Grab and Go service, that our response has been so wonderful and positive, and people are so happy to be in the library, it's really a pleasure.

Donna Warren:

I just wanted to say congratulations on the grants for youth services as well. it's very nice.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Thank you.

Eric Sharrin:

Very good. Okay, if nothing else on the Directors Report, I'd like to move on to Old Business . We have the library renewal project.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yeah, so I think that we need to have a discussion as to kind of next steps with where we are in the process. In the last meeting, as you have attached to your board packet with correspondence, there was a letter that was sent to the school board trustees in terms of asking them to approve a June vote date for us. There is also a... that letter was co-authored and sent from Eric as board president. And then there was also a follow up letter sent from me, which was co-written by the library attorney requesting a June vote date and so that was where we left off. And I think you have... I know that in the last school board meeting that the school board president, President Bond stated that he would reach out to you Eric and have a conversation with you, and so that was where we kind of left off.

Eric Sharrin:

Yeah, and President Bond did reach out to me, we had a nice conversation about what we're... the whole building renewal project. I explained how it came to be because it's still out there. I'll take a step back, I know we're meeting all the time and we are putting our word out there, and we have monthly meetings, we have weekly meetings, we have board meetings. But if nobody is watching us, we're not getting the word out. We're doing what we can but we can't blame people if they don't come to us. In this case, we have to do a better job going out and disseminating this information because people still are not under the impression that they don't... that we need to have a new building, looking at social media sites, listening to various people talk. What's wrong with the building? They look at the building and it looks fine from the outside, they don't see the fact that we have a boiler that's breaking and it's on... since the building's... was created in 1962.

Eric Sharrin:

We have air conditioning unit which is catastrophically failing, and that we need to completely replace, and we need to remove walls and in order to do this. We did have a charette, where we asked people [inaudible 00:35:28] let me just continue on, we've got to... once we do anything we have to put in sprinkler system, we have to change our bathroom. So we've got all this work to do, we thought it would be in our best interest to say, "Well, instead of just doing the infrastructure, maybe we can make the library better." Had a charette, had multiple meetings, got input from thousands of people about what they'd like to do. Number one thing was to create the parking lot and get more spaces.

Eric Sharrin:

We have 17 spaces used by staff and by doing it we have to do a little construction to the building. We had our soil samples, we had our engineering report come back. All this set led to the point that we can't do what we need to do with the current existing building. We need to tear out the walls and we were getting to the point where we basically need walls and foundation and so as we know... well, this means that it'd be better to replace

this building. And we've gotten our architect, we got the engineer, we've gotten all the reports and we got from them this recommendation of how much at a very conservative price, meaning that is sort of like if we get everything in there, taking into consideration all of our possible contingency costs going forward. And anything that may could go wrong, this will cover it all, and we don't have to go back again.

Eric Sharrin:

Our goal is not to spend this, we really hope to spend a lot less than what we're asking for, 23.5 million. But I think people are hearing between 23.5 million; they don't realize that going forward for a few years before any of this is done or charged to them at which point we will be beyond COVID, and the economy will be back. I don't think it behooves us to wait till COVID is over to start doing this, and getting a vote on this. But I just think after everything... and I've talked to also my fellow board trustees individually, to just talk about what's going on. And it makes sense to take a step back, I don't think we should delay the project but take a step back and reach out, given the Pfizer report from community representatives.

Eric Sharrin:

So I talked to Mr. Bond and I asked him if he would also be interested in serving on this advisory board. Also, I when I spoke to him I thought that we would like to hold off on having that... the Board of Education vote at this point to put us on the calendar, just so we could get all our ducks in a row. Everything we've done has really been done professionally, we've done it with care, and as much knowledge as we know. But just to revisit this a little bit, make sure that what we're looking at, the scope of the work we're doing is proper with our community input to it. So setting up the advisory board I think would be a good thing to do, to get other people from from the community in, so they could see this; tour the building with them so they can really see where we stand and what we're talking about and what we're doing. Because we may find out things that... we've done all this work for two years, and we've put our heart and souls into this, but maybe we could just take a step back, listen to some other people and they may be right there with us.

Eric Sharrin:

But there may be somebody who's got such a knowledge and depth that will be able to tell us you know what, this is great but I think you could do it for less. Maybe you could do this scope [inaudible 00:39:17] if you reconfigure it this way, you'll be able to do what you want. What I'm trying to say is we're listening to our public and our constituents and our neighbors, and we want to do the right thing. We do need a new library and I think we need to make sure people understand that we do need a new library. It's not like we're making this up.

Eric Sharrin:

Our foundation leaks because we're built on top of a creek for instance, and that... so there're times of the summer when that water level rises and the rugs get wet, and not just the summer but all year round and the rugs buckle that becomes to danger. The air conditioning we can't use anymore, we have to rent the chiller. We've got all these things happening but I don't think people are seeing it. They come in, they walk around when it's open but they don't see the backwards, they don't see upstairs, they're not seeing what needs to be done and how it's failed and looking at the massive size of this unit that needs to come out and the walls. And so what I'm saying is, I think this project needs to be done, we need to get on this, we need to actually get our message out there and show why.

Eric Sharrin:

If they're not coming and they're not listening us on this, on our meetings that we have we've got to be proactive, and we need to actually invite them in to help advise us. And make sure at the end of the day, that this whole community is backing us and that they do see that we need this new library, it's not just like, "We could do a couple of fixes because we do a few fixes," you're stuck with the same old library but we're still

going to have to spend millions upon millions of dollars just to fix everything that you can't see. And the library ends up looking the same, there's no new parking and even the electric behind it's not something that may need to be updated.

Eric Sharrin:

But our electric is outdated, it can't support certain things you'd like to do if they need to plug in from the outside or help run anything such as an ice cream truck. Last year we were sponsoring an ice cream truck, they asked if we had anything to hook into, and our electric couldn't handle it. So basically, with the conversation I had with Mr. Bond we talked about a lot of these things, and he asked if we could be on the school agenda, and he gave me a little bit of a background of how at one point in the sixties, we voted together and how it came to be that we started voting separately. But I said, "You know what? We may not be ready to vote with you and me at the May vote," you know what I mean?

Eric Sharrin:

This is something we may have to put out for the vote to be maybe in September after the summer before we vote on this, but I think it behooves us to really just take a step back, we've done tremendous work. That's where we start from, we start from what we have and what we've done and that's from scratch. And we have people come in and look at this and it helps us and advise us and so we could get really make the best choice. I guess that's an update on what's happening with the library renewal project where we've... some things we've discussed about and [inaudible 00:43:09].

Eugenia Schatoff:

Thank you Eric. I think that was very well stated. I would also say that I think one of the biggest... So I think you answered the question very well, one of the big confusion points is like, "What's wrong with the building? It's great, it's beautiful, what's wrong with it?" And they think it's really a testament to the staff and the great job that everybody's doing that people don't notice. And why would you notice because you're getting the materials that you need and attending the programs that you want and still having a great time at the library, while behind the scenes things are failing. But you really clarified that question that we are getting a lot, which is, "How did this happen? Why does it have to be torn down?"

Eugenia Schatoff:

The other question I think that behooves us to really spend a lot of time answering for people is the timeline issue, wherein a lot of people still don't understand that this is a very conceptual project. And so when they're hearing about a vote, or they're hearing about numbers, this is something that they think is coming out of their pocket tomorrow. And so we've had a lot of people commenting and contacting us saying, "How can you do this during COVID?" And I think that when looking at the project plan and the timeline, quite clearly shows that at earliest it would take years before anything could even happen or affect taxpayers, but that's not what people are hearing. And so I don't know if it's... I think it's a combination of... I really think COVID has had a lot of impact on a lot of people. I think that everybody's kind of worn out from COVID.

Eugenia Schatoff:

I think that regarding the schools, the fact that kids still aren't in school full-time, as we heard at the Board of Ed meeting. And I had parents contacting me, Because things aren't fully back to normal yet, I think that's not helping us to make a clear case to people because everybody's still being so affected. So I think that's really part of what we have to do and I think that it's a good move on our part to really be able to answer and engage with those people who have had concerns about timeline and the impact of COVID on this project. So I think that, that's the... probably in addition to your question of what how can it be so bad? Why, what... it looks fine, what what has to be done? Why does it have to be torn down? In addition to that, probably the second most

frequent question we get is, "How can you do it now? How can you do it now?" And so I think answering both those questions will be really important for all of us to be able to do.

Eric Sharrin:

Yes. And if I can, I just want to take a second here and I want to thank Donna, and I want to thank Bill, and I want to thank you Eugenia. And I want to thank Liz, may she rest in peace, for all the hard work and dedication you've put in over the last three years on this, just getting us to this point. And it's not for nothing, we're going to keep moving forward with this and I think we have a really good foundation. We've done tremendous work, we have the ability to give an advisory board everything, so they're not starting from step one they're starting from where we are, and can really go forward from there and advise properly and not have to think this starting like, "Oh, well, you're thinking about doing this." No, no, no, we're not thinking about this but this is where we are in the process. Take a look at what we've done.

Eugenia Schatoff:

And I'm so happy to hear that President Bond agreed to assist us because I think that's really important for us to partner with the school district or educational partners. We're all serving the taxpayers and the children of the district. I think that, that's wonderful news to hear.

Eric Sharrin:

Right. And I don't know that he actually rebooked, I think he agreed to it in theory. I think once we get the advisory board and ask him then he will agree. I feel very positive about this. Though, I don't want to put words in his mouth but he definitely... I asked him if he would consider being on it and he said yes. So he agreed to consider being on it, I just don't want to make it something that's solid until we ask and have it going. I just want to say that it was definitely positive, I got a positive feedback. So yes, I'm very glad to hear it also, it's good to have that conversation was very nice. And I look forward to being partners. The school district and the library are partners, should be partners in this and I think as they understand it, they will support us more and more in what we're doing here.

Donna Warren:

Eric, thank you for taking the time to take that call from Bruce or to make that call, and then take that call, and we appreciate all that you're doing as well. And Eugenia, ultimately, we couldn't do any of this without you. So, yes, thank you. It is important that people understand the inner workings of what's happening and maybe the tours, like we're talking about will be helpful for whoever will take the time to come and see. I just hope that some of the miscommunication that's out there starts to get disseminated with the true information. We're hearing crazy numbers like \$1,000 a year, which is so outrageous. We were talking about \$187 a year, \$15 a month, at the most.

Donna Warren:

So I'm not sure where everybody's getting all of these insane numbers from but it seems that the newsletters that have been sent out, the weekly email information, the information sessions that are happening at the library, they're just not getting out to the community enough. So yes, we do need to regroup. I agree with you and I'd like to see us try to do that as much as we can. And I'm hoping that the public takes the time to really understand this project, and really understand why it is we're looking to help the community to have a better library/community center. We give so much to the community between programming, between a place for people to use a computer, between meetings' places between places for people to tutor on and on. We can say, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. But there's so much that we offer our community and I tend to think that right now with COVID times people are just not... they're forgetting it.

Eric Sharrin:
Yes, thank you Donna.

Donna Warren:
You're muted Bill.

Eric Sharrin:
Bill?

Donna Warren:
Yes.

William Morris:
You go ahead, I don't want to add too much more but I do look forward to having a higher degree of community participation in looking over the plans that we've worked on and maybe providing some insights into things that maybe we haven't seen. But it would be nice to have some additional input and people being able to take a look at this and understand the reasons that were at the root of this project.

Eric Sharrin:
Yes. Okay. So that's it. Irene, do you have anything to add to this?

Irene D'Anna:
I'm new-

Eric Sharrin:
Yeah.

Irene D'Anna:
But I know I'm a big fan of the library, I've been part of it for a while and I support it especially the tech side of it. And I think during COVID, people are very stressed and especially because all of our services are not available, they're forgetting what the library is for. And I think once COVID starts towards the end of this year, our library is going to be more important than any other time because finally people are going to be coming out of their houses, and they're going to be gathering and they're going to want to get rid of... no, they're not going to want to get rid of their children just temporarily for a couple of hours, and that is what the library does. It helps... it groups us together, it helps children be themselves in a safe environment and sometimes during this past year people forget how big a part of our lives the library was.

Irene D'Anna:
It's one of the best libraries I've ever seen. So it's amazing. So I mean I'm new, I'd love to volunteer to be able to have like a booth to go in the back of my car, whether it's the Rotary Club, whether it's Shoprite, CVS, and just be a face with a mask that maybe answers questions, or hypothetical things, or rumors that they've heard and just put facts to reality. So if that's what we're looking for, is to kind of get the word out to the public, I'd be more than happy to help to do that.

Eric Sharrin:
Yes, thank you, thank you. Okay, with that said I'd like to move on to the next part of this and this will be the resolution to set a date for the budget vote and the trustee election for June 8th. So somebody would like to read the resolution. Wendy, if you'd like to read the resolution. You're on mute, so you'll have to come off mute to read the resolution.

Wendy Courtney:

Okay. The following resolution was adopted by the Board of... Oh, sorry. The following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Pearl River Public Library on February 22, 2021. Resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Pearl River Public Library, at a regular meeting held on February 22, 2021, set the date of the next Budget Vote and Trustee Election for Tuesday, June 8, 2021, and set the date of the May board meeting for Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at which meeting there would also be a Budget Hearing.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay, very good. So we have heard the resolution, do I have a motion? This is to accept the resolution. Irene, you can actually vote at this one. First, we make motions, then we have discussion, and then we vote. So Donna made a motion, you can second the motion.

Irene D'Anna:

I second the motion.

Eric Sharrin:

There we go. Okay, any discussion on this? Are we good with the date?

Donna Warren:

I'm good with the date for the election.

Eric Sharrin:

And the-

Donna Warren:

And the budget hearing, yes.

Eric Sharrin:

Yes, okay.

Donna Warren:

And the budget vote.

Eric Sharrin:

Fair enough.

Donna Warren:

Sorry, the budget vote.

Eric Sharrin:

Okay. In that case, I'm all in favor.

William Morris:

Aye.

Donna Warren:

Aye.

Eric Sharrin:
Any opposed-

Irene D'Anna:
Aye.

Eric Sharrin:
None? And very good, so the motion passes.

Wendy Courtney:
Okay, I.. yes.

Eric Sharrin:
Yes?

Wendy Courtney:
I just want to point out that there will be two seats, two trustee seats, up for election. One will be Bill's and the other will be the one Irene was just appointed to; she has to run at the next election. She actually has to run. So, yep, candidate petitions, et cetera, et cetera, I will get out to you in due time.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay, thank you. All right. Then next on our agenda... wait here a second, I just need to get it. I was doing this one trying to save a couple of trees by not printing everything out. So there we go, okay. Next, you have our committee reports. Were there any committees that met this month? No, I'm seeing a no. So there are no committee reports at this point.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Eric, finance committee had met and-

Eric Sharrin:
Oh, okay.

Eugenia Schatoff:
We'll have a budget prepared for approval for next meeting. We were discussing meeting again prior to the next board meeting.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay, very good.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Before the next board meeting.

Eric Sharrin:
Thank you. Wendy, do you have something to say? On mute.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Yes, I was just going to move the resolution to override the tax cap to new business or do you want to handle it?

Eric Sharrin:

I'm going to leave it at new business.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Okay.

Eric Sharrin:

Because we're almost there. Do we have any personnel?

Eugenia Schatoff:

So as you guys know, we did have Jennifer Daddio submitted her resignation, her last day. Can somebody... can everyone just mute because I just hear myself from the echo.

Eric Sharrin:

Yeah, I can mute [inaudible 00:57:08].

Eugenia Schatoff:

Okay, thank you. It's difficult to process it. So she already had her last day. So we are going to be looking at reorganizing a little bit but we are interested in promoting internally into that position. So Sarah Northshield has agreed to that. So we're going to be doing that and then also Emily Dowie resigned and finished her last day. She's now working at Greenberg Library so we are going to be hiring for that position in the immediate as well as the position that Sarah will vacate.

Eric Sharrin:

Thank you. Okay, very good. And now on to New Business. So Wendy, the resolution to override the tax cap.

Wendy Courtney:

Okay. The following resolution... this needs to be adopted before you adopt a budget, so we should probably doing it this month is good. The following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Pearl River Public Library on February 22, 2021. Whereas the adoption of the 2021-2022 budget for the Pearl River Public Library may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in general municipal law section 3-C adopted in 2011; and whereas General Municipal Law Section 3-C expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of 60% of qualified board members; now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Pearl River Public Library vote to approve to exceed the tax levy limit for 2021-2022 by at least 60% of the Board of Trustees as required by state law on February 22, 2021. You're muted Eric.

William Morris:

You're muted Eric.

Donna Warren:

Eric, we can't hear you.

William Morris:

Eric we can't hear you because you're muted.

Eric Sharrin:

And I probably never sounded so good, thank you for reminding me that I muted myself. And there were no lip readers out there so may I have a motion to accept resolution.

Donna Warren:
I'll make a motion.

Eric Sharrin:
I got Donna first, I have Irene as a second. Any discussion on this? No discussion in which case I'd like to call the vote, all in favor of adopting this resolution? Aye. All four have accepted, none have voted against and none have abstained and the resolution passes. Thank you. Okay, we are now on to any correspondence.

Eugenia Schatoff:
So the letter that was sent out was included in your board packets, so you just received copies of that letter that you had sent out to the school board, Eric.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay, very good. Okay, thank you. All right, next we are up to any public comments. So we do have a couple of people who are attending. If they have anything that they'd like to ask or comment on, please feel free to do so at this time. And you may do so by typing in the chat window.

Eugenia Schatoff:
I'm not seeing any.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay, in that case I thank you. Our next item is executive session. We would like to discuss a union contract negotiations. And I don't know that we need to discuss legal proceedings at this time, so I'd like to just keep this-

Eugenia Schatoff:
You are discussing legal proceedings.

Eric Sharrin:
We are discussing legal proceedings?-

Eugenia Schatoff:
Yeah, or how not to proceed.

Eric Sharrin:
Or legal non-proceedings. Okay, very good. And those I think we have to be specific about asking the board to have our vote in June at this time. In which case I need a motion to move into Executive Session. I have Bill as the motion, do I have a second? Okay, all in favor?

Donna Warren:
Aye.

Eric Sharrin:
Aye. So we all have voted to move into executive session at 8:19. So I thank everybody who has attended, participants and Wendy, Debra, Magda, thank you for joining us-

Magda Parvulescu:
Bye.

William Morris:
Have a good night.

Eric Sharrin:
Have a good evening.

Magda Parvulescu:
Goodnight.

Donna Warren:
Guys, can you just give me two minutes? [crosstalk 01:03:31]

William Morris:
I can stand up for a minute. [crosstalk 01:03:33]

Eugenia Schatoff:
Okay.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay, we are just coming out of executive session. We've determined that we are not going to do a legal proceeding at this time, and we have worked on a union contract. With that said-

Eugenia Schatoff:
Can we schedule the two meetings? Can we schedule the executive session and the finance committee meeting?

Eric Sharrin:
Yes. So we need to schedule a finance committee meeting, when is finance committee available?

Donna Warren:
Well, you tell me what's good for you.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Next week.

William Morris:
Yes, please not until next week.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Yes.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay.

William Morris:
Let's see. I'm sorry, give me one second I've got like 18 tabs open.

Eugenia Schatoff:
How many of them are spreadsheets?

William Morris:
I have so many spreadsheets. You'll see I'm already working on the new one, that's what I was doing. I just got to find my calendar. Oh, no, that calendar won't work, I need this calendar. Next week is already the first week of the month, isn't it?

Donna Warren:
Yes, it is.

William Morris:
Oh my goodness.

Donna Warren:
Yeah.

William Morris:
I'm good every night, you want to do Tuesday night? Does that sound good Donna?

Donna Warren:
Actually Tuesday works, yeah.

William Morris:
All right. So we can [inaudible 01:05:18].

Eugenia Schatoff:
So, Tuesday this 2nd we have the Building Info Session at 7 -

Donna Warren:
The 2nd.

Donna Warren:
Oh, I'm just going to say seven o'clock. Okay.

William Morris:
So you want to do it Monday or Wednesday? I don't care.

Donna Warren:
Monday's tough for me this next week, how about Wednesday?

William Morris:
Wednesday's fine.

Donna Warren:
Okay.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Okay, so Wednesday the 3rd at what time?

William Morris:

Seven?

Donna Warren:

Yeah, that's fine. Wednesday 3rd, yeah it's okay.

Eugenia Schatoff:

Okay, and then when do you guys want to do the next contract negotiation meeting? The following week?

William Morris:

Yeah, okay.

Eugenia Schatoff:

So the week of the eighth?

William Morris:

Sure.

Donna Warren:

The week of the eighth, [inaudible 01:06:22]. Is there anything Tuesday night that week?

Eugenia Schatoff:

Hold on, just...

Donna Warren:

I don't know what's good for you Irene. [inaudible 01:06:45]

William Morris:

Or you send me an invite, [inaudible 01:06:53] wow.

Eric Sharrin:

Yeah, it's just waste of time.

Donna Warren:

Oh, look at that. Okay. Oh, it could have just waited and accepted.

William Morris:

Yeah, I know I was expecting it myself. [crosstalk 01:07:01].

Donna Warren:

No, no, no, I like it better. I like it better, definitely.

Eugenia Schatoff:

I'm going to a workshop on Tuesday, the ninth, Ballot Success, a case study.

William Morris:

So what do you want to do? Do you want to make that the 10th as well?

Eugenia Schatoff:

No, we could do the ninth... in the evening of the ninth, is that when we're looking at 7PM on the ninth?

Donna Warren:

Yeah, its [crosstalk 01:07:26]

Eric Sharrin:

Okay.

Irene D'Anna:

Okay, so-

Donna Warren:

That's for union contracts we said?

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yes.

William Morris:

Does that work for you Irene?

Irene D'Anna:

I guess so. I didn't know where we're all on that. I'm ready if you need me.

William Morris:

Yeah, that's the one to finish discussing this.

Irene D'Anna:

Yeah, yeah, okay. [crosstalk 01:07:46].

Eric Sharrin:

When it comes to union contracts, everybody on the board's [inaudible 01:07:50].

Donna Warren:

Are you sending another one of these Eugenia?

Eugenia Schatoff:

Yes, I am.

Donna Warren:

Okay.

Irene D'Anna:

Tuesdays are good.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Okay.

Eric Sharrin:
All right. I don't know if I have to officially put together... well, it doesn't really have to be voted on if I put together an ad hoc committee. That's just something I do is president to have two people on the ad hoc that's not something that gets voted on, does it?

Donna Warren:
I think you just appoint it.

Eric Sharrin:
Yeah, okay. So I'll appoint a little temporary technology committee for-

Eugenia Schatoff:
I don't think it should be a temporary committee, I think having a technology committee that talks about like, you're supposed to have like a strategic like technology plan as part of your library's strategic planning.

Eric Sharrin:
Okay. So Irene would you like to be on that. Okay. Very good. So we'll have Eric and Irene on that one. All right. And then next meeting, we'll reconfigure the Policy and the Building & Grounds and the Personnel Committees, but for now, it is nine... it's 10 o'clock on the dot.

Eugenia Schatoff:
Oh, jeez.

Donna Warren:
Oh, lord, okay.

Eric Sharrin:
And I have a motion to the adjourn the meeting? Donna?

Donna Warren:
Yeah.

Irene D'Anna:
Thank you for educating me.

Eric Sharrin:
You're welcome, do I have a second? [inaudible 01:09:30] I'm going to second it, I'm seconding it.

Eugenia Schatoff:
You finally got one Eric.

Eric Sharrin:
Nobody else is seconding it, I had to second it.

Irene D'Anna:
Second.

Eric Sharrin:
Any discussion? If not I call the vote, all in favor of ending the board meeting? Any oppose? None? None abstained, we are ending at 10 o'clock.

Donna Warren:
Sounds good.

William Morris:
It's been lovely-