

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Selection Committee

Tuesday, August 11, 2015 / 1:00 p.m.

Dudley Branch Library

65 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

MINUTES

A meeting of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Selection Committee was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at the Dudley Branch Library, 65 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119 at 1:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting were: Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Selection Committee Chair and Trustee Evelyn Arana-Ortiz, Selection Committee Members: Sarah-Ann Shaw and Che Madyum, Friends of the Dudley Branch Library; Allen Knight, Dudley Branch Librarian, and Christine Schonhart, Boston Public Library Manager of Branch Libraries. Also attending were Candelaria Silva-Collins, Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Project Manager, and Deborah Kirrane, Boston Public Library Clerk of the Board.

Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Selection Committee (“Committee”) Chair Evelyn Arana-Ortiz presided and called the meeting to order.

Ms. Arana-Ortiz addressed the first item of business. After review, motion made and duly seconded, the Minutes of the Trustees Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Advisory Committee meeting held on June 2, 2015 were approved and subsequently posted on the Boston Public Library’s web site at www.bpl.org.

In an off-agenda item, Ms. Schonhart distributed the FY16 fund accounting to the Committee members. Based on the accounting, Ms. Arana-Ortiz confirmed the amount available for expenditure during FY16. Ms. Schonhart also confirmed that the Dudley Branch Library, pursuant to the terms of the Trust, would have \$10,000 available to spend for literary and instructive purposes specific to the Dudley Branch, between now and June 2016. She asked Mr. Knight to put together a proposed plan for her review, detailing how the funds would be spent.

Ms. Arana-Ortiz announced that changes made by the Trustees Finance and Audit Committee to the fund portfolio were benefitting the fund and providing increased returns.

Ms. Schonhart asked Ms. Silva-Collins to remind all program providers that invoices are to be submitted by mid-June 2016. She further explained that a standard invoice template was being drafted by BPL Accounting Department to correctly reflect taxable and non-taxable items.

Ms. Arana-Ortiz asked that Project Manager, Ms. Candelaria Silva-Collins present the grants so the Committee may discuss same. Ms. Silva-Collins distributed a chart listing the 36 grant applications, noting the increase in the number of proposals. In FY14 there were 17 proposals, and in FY15 there were 26 proposals. Ms. Silva-Collins reported on, and the Committee

discussed, each grant proposal. The following programs were either approved or placed on a list for further discussion and marked “maybe”.

1. ArtsEmerson: Play Reading Book Club, a theater literacy initiative led by teaching artists where participants will read, discuss, see, analyze, and learn the literary and creative process of three performances from Arts/Emerson 2015/2016. The Committee voted to fund this program and to allow use of the Dudley Literacy Center space.

2. DeAma Battle and Art of Black Dance and Music, Inc.: Dance, Music and Performance Workshop. The Committee elected to fund this program of eight dance, music, and performance workshops at the recommended funding, with the understanding that Ms. Silva-Collins will work with program to improve its outreach plan.

3. Haley House: Take Back the Kitchen Cooking Classes, a program for seniors and families offering culinary exploration using cookbooks found at BPL, was approved for funding.

4. Citi Performing Arts Center: Boston Youth Art Groups for Social Change Conference. This program will offer VIP access to tickets for performances and will use the Dudley Literacy Center to accommodate “break out” room needs. The Committee would like, however, the flyer advertising the program edited and the picture of Central Library with one of the Dudley Branch.

5. Ann Garabedian and MathPOWER: “How To” for Math Homework, was approved by the Committee. The 8-week program offers a tool kit for successfully addressing math homework and includes a math language session for parents.

6. Stephen Hanley and WAITT House: Enriched Language Arts and Math Program, an offering for adults, was approved for funding by the Committee. The classes offer adults instruction in basic reading, writing, math, and how these skills relate to everyday life and makes extensive use of library resources. Ms. Silva-Collins pointed to the success of this program last year and Mr. Knight stated that the program was responsible for an increase in library usage. The Committee voted to approve funding for this program.

7. Shanna Heath and Lyric Stage Company: Monologue Acting Class was approved for funding by the Committee.

8. Chanelle John: Community Yoga. This already successful, community, family program was approved by the Committee. Ms. Madyum noted that the yoga mats purchased as part of the grant will become the property of the Boston Public Library.

9. Bonita Jones: Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction, an 8-week course in stress reduction techniques for greater health awareness and improved well-being, was marked “maybe” pending budget clarifications.

10. John Kordalewski: The Makanda Project – Jazz Music Programming. The Committee voted to approve funding for this popular live music program that features a

performance by Makanda Project, a youth component, and art-making activities from sparc! (MassArt artmobile.) The Committee did, however, ask that only two concerts – instead of the proposed three – be performed.

11. Naomi Lomba-Gomes: Creative Non-Fiction Memoir Writing Workshop, an 8-week program in which participants examine other memoirs and readings, and culminates in a journal of students' writings, was approved for funding.

12. Joel Mackall and Reidren Business Group: Facing Slavery – Finding Early Records, was approved for funding. The Committee noted that the instructor is very knowledgeable in this subject matter and has conducted similar programs previously.

13. Joel Mackall and Reidren Business Group: Smart Phone Training, was approved for funding. The four-session series in which students will use their own smart phones, will be primarily geared to seniors.

14. Vashti Massaquoi: Knitting/Crocheting Program, was categorized as “maybe” pending clarifications on budget and number of sessions proposed.

15. The Dimock Center: Next Step Resource Fair. A Community Educational and Occupational Career Development event featuring employers and educational and job training providers, was approved for funding by the Committee. The program will also provide tours of the Dudley Library, and highlight resources available.

16. Nancy Smith and Gillian Miller: New Pathway to a CDL Transportation Career, was considered “maybe” for funding pending receipt of biographical information of proposed presenters. The Committee appreciated that the proposed program would attract people to view the Dudley Library as a valuable resource and looked favorably on the career-training aspect of the grant.

17. Valerie Stephens: Mother and Father Wit, an elder storytelling program, in which elders will create a storytelling quilt and hone their storytelling skills, was categorized as a “maybe” as clarification of how visual artist is to be paid was sought.

18. Sparklle James: Concept to Catwalk. A business ownership and event production course for teen girls, focusing on fashion design incorporating, sewing, website development, marketing, and culminating in a fashion show. This program was highly rated last year and the Committee looks forward to its continued success.

19. Carlos Vargas: Piano Program, offers basic piano playing and music theory instruction. A strong desire among patrons exists for this program and, while the Committee is pleased to fund it, there are concerns over management of the waiting list and whether returning students are being favored over new students.

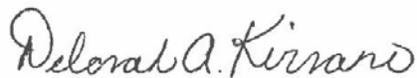
Ms. Collins confirmed that she would seek additional information from those programs identified as “maybe” and requiring further clarification.

Ms. Arana-Ortiz will report on the Committee proceedings of this meeting at the September 29, 2015 Board of Trustees Meeting, and Ms. Silva-Collins plans to attend same. Ms. Silva-Collins also agreed to provide statistics illustrating the number of program applications submitted, the number approved, a list of program categories, and the number of participants to further demonstrate the success of the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust.

At the New Business portion of the meeting, the Committee asked if the Literacy Center could be cleaned. Ms. Schonhart advised that she would make the appropriate request to the BPL Facilities Department.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah A. Kirrane".

Deborah A. Kirrane
Clerk of the Board