East Cleveland Public Library  
Regular Board of Library Trustees Meeting  
September 16, 2019  
14101 Euclid Ave. East Cleveland, Ohio 44112  
Lower Auditorium  6:30 p.m.

Ms. Turner called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER  
A. ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Rashid, Dr. Harris, Ms. McClarin, Mr. Silvera, Ms. Shaheed

A quorum exists. Present — 5; Absent — 2

Also present at the table were: Mr. Carlos Latimer (Executive Director), Mr. Cockfield (Fiscal Officer), Ms. Chambliss (Deputy Fiscal Officer), Mr. E.F. Turner III (Exec. Admin. Assistant).

II. LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Everyone is invited to sing.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Rashid: All right. Moving along to the next item on our agenda, the approval of the agenda.

Dr. Harris: I move the adopted agenda.

Ms. Shaheed: I second.

Mr. Rashid: It has been moved and second, is there any discussions? Hearing none. Mr. Turner, please call the roll.
Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes),

Yes – 5
Motion passes.

IV. APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2019.

Mr. Rashid: Five yeses, so the motion carries, and the agenda's been approved. Moving to the next item of our agenda, will be the approval of the minutes of May 20th, 2019. Do I hear a motion-?

Mr. Silvera: Madame chair. I move to the adoption of the new minutes of-

Ms. McClarin: ...Mister.

Mr. Silvera: ...Mr. Chair.

Mr. Rashid: Thank you Ms. McClarin.

Mr. Silvera: I move to the adoption of the minutes of May 20th, 2019.

Mr. Rashid: Do I hear a second?

Ms. McClarin: I second.

Mr. Rashid: Moved and second. Would you please call the roll Mr. Turner?
Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes),

Yes – 5
Motion passes.

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 17, 2019

Mr. Rashid: Moving on to the next item on the agenda to approve of the minutes from June 17th, 2019.

Ms. Shaheed: I approve the minutes from June 17th.

Mr. Silvera: I second.

Mr. Rashid: Hearing a motion, Mr. Turner would you call the roll? It's been second.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes),

Yes – 5
Motion passes.
VI. APPROVAL OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM JULY 2, 2019

Mr. Rashid: The next item on the agenda will be the approval of the special board minutes from July the 2nd of 2019.

Mr. Silvera: I move for the adoption of the minutes from July 2nd.

Ms. Shaheed: I second.

Mr. Rashid: There's a motion and second. Mr. Turner would you please call the roll and let the record reflect that Mr. Mays has just entered the meeting.

(Mr. Mays arrives at 6:40 PM)

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (abstain), Mr. Mays (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes),

Yes – 5; Abstain - 1

Motion passes.

VII. APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM AUGUST 19, 2019

Mr. Rashid: The next item on our agenda is approval of the minutes from August 19th, 2019.
Dr. Harris: I move for approval of the August 19, 2019 minutes.

Ms. McClarin: I second.

Mr. Rashid: Is there any discussion?

Mr. Mays: Yes. I'm sorry, Mr. President.

Mr. Mays: Page 46, 47 and 48 of those minutes. That's August the 19th, is that correct?

Mr. Rashid: Yes sir.

Mr. Mays: 48.

Mr. Mays: 46, 47 ... Give me a minute. (Silence). All right, on page 47, at the top of the page. There isn't, I am going to do my due diligence on this board. And this is in reference to the minutes, and... We discussed, and also... I mean the resolutions I think, be written. I brought it up in the committee meeting. I'm bringing it up here again, that resolutions are written. There's a form and format for resolutions. The President, is absent, but I still say it as if she was sitting here, said that it's going to ... "I'm not going to continue to writing resolutions I guess the way I had been writing them," and I take exception to that.

Mr. Mays: That is this board's responsibility. As a board to write resolutions. If you cannot write them, you can get someone to write them for you. Whatever, I don't expect everyone to know. Then, some of the members, my other colleagues, said that they did not know how. This person also stipulated that she wasn't going to write any, because she doesn't know how to write them. Then how can you castigate me for writing resolutions that you do not know how to write them?

Mr. Mays: I think it would be incumbent on those that do not know to seek out my help, or the administration's help. That is not really the administration's job to do that. That is our job, as a board, to make policies. Those policies that we put into resolutions, that we function under. Some of my colleagues voted yay. I'm not going to adhere to that. I'm being perfectly honest, I will not adhere to that, because I'm being derelict in my responsibility, as a board member.

Mr. Mays: If you do not know how to do it, ask. I'm willing to help. There are certain members on this board have asked me to write resolutions for them, and I have done that, and I will continue to do that. That's my job. Let it be said, that O. Mays has spoken. Yes sir?
Mr. Rashid: I just wanted to say, just for the record, my interpretation of what transpired relative to minding these resolutions was that we were going to develop a form that we would use a unified form, so that they all came out the same way. It was not ever mentioned, as far as I recall, that you could not participate in that or even one of us could not participate in that actual, or developing, that process. I think what we were trying to do is to say that we would develop a form and a system so that they would all be consistent when we create them. So, when we vote on them, we have a form that we consistently use, so that when the record is reflected, maybe years from now, ten years from now or ten minutes from now, they'll all look the same in the basic form.

Mr. Rashid: I don't think it was ever, and at least I didn't take that as being an intent to stop or castigate you or anybody from participating in that process, because we are all part of the board and part of the organizational library, we do the best that we can for the public that we serve so that if, in fact, your expertise wanted to be ... You wanted to contribute that, I see being welcomed with open arms, but at least we have a set form as to how we present this legislation. I thought that was the purpose of the conversation was. I didn't think it was ever directed at any individual to stop them. If I was mistaken, I apologize but that's what I thought was going on.

Mr. Mays: Mr. Chairman I hear you. You are correct. You had made a reference, and I have no problem. I agree with that. It came out as ... I was looking for it as we were speaking, where she said, "We'll see".

Mr. Rashid: She's just one person out of seven, so-

Mr. Mays: Yeah. Thank you.

Mr. Rashid: Can we move on?

Mr. Mays: Yes sir. Mr. President, I move that we adopt ... I move to adopt the minutes for August the 19th, 2019 with the notations that I have made in reference to resolutions.

Mr. Rashid: Yes, Dr. Harris?

Dr. Harris: I moved for the motion already.

Mr. Mays: I second the motion.

Dr. Harris: -Yours with a comment, they were already second. You were making a comment.
Mr. Mays: That was a discussion on the minutes, that I was making.

Mr. Rashid: Right, but it's already been motioned.

Mr. Mays: Okay.

Mr. Rashid: Yes, Mr. Turner, would you please call the roll?

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (yes), Mr. Mays (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes).

Yes – 6
Motion passes.

Mr. Mays: One question.

Mr. Rashid: Yes sir?

Mr. Mays: Have you done the minutes for-

Mr. Rashid: We've done all of them, that's the last one.

Mr. Mays: Well you're moving right along.

Mr. Rashid: Yes sir.

Mr. Mays: All right. Thank you.

Mr. Rashid: You're welcome sir.
VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Rashid: The next item on our agenda will be our President’s report. Mr. Latimer, would you like to share with us?

Mr. Latimer: Ms. Turner did not give me any information for a President’s report.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Rashid: Okay. Do we have any communications necessary to reflect on the record?

Mr. Latimer: We do have two communications. Would you like me to read them in full or paraphrase?

Mr. Rashid: Whatever you think is best sir.

Mr. Latimer: Okay. The first one is a letter from Councilman Nathaniel Martin.

Mr. Latimer: Dear Mr. Latimer. Over the years, it's been a pleasure to come to your facility to obtain resources and assistance, and to work with exceptional staff like Ms. Karen Murray. She has been very helpful over the years in terms of providing guidance, research and support for whatever I've asked her to assist me with. I want to acknowledge her outstanding service to the community. In addition, I would like to thank you for supporting our community appreciation dinner, hosted by the democratic club, that we host every year.

Mr. Latimer: Also, Ms. Murray has been very supportive in helping to organize the census 2020 activities. I appreciate you allowing her to work with us around this effort. The East Cleveland Public Library is an important institution in our community that serves a great need for having much needed resources and equipment, such as computers, that many of our residents don’t have. It is a pleasure to work with professionals that understand the community needs to support our local government officials. Ms. Karen Murray has truly been a professional individual that I've been able to observe over the years. Mr. Latimer, I would like to thank you for your support and kindness, and I look forward to working with you in your new endeavors. Respectfully, Nathaniel Martin.
Mr. Latimer:  There's also another communication from Barbara Flewellyn. She is part of the Flewelling family, which we own the Iccabod Flewelling collection. I'll just paraphrase this because it's a little lengthy.

Mr. Latimer:  They came to town, during the month of August, to bring their family members to create a documentary on Iccabod Flewelling. Part of that documentary is to get credibility and also to become an authoritative resource to make Iccabod Flewelling part of the national museum movement. When their families attend these meetings throughout the country, Iccabod Flewelling's name is never mentioned. They went to North Carolina; his name came up based on it being in somewhere at the national institute of African American history. They asked a question, what is it that they need to do, to move his name to that next level. Basically, they need to create another resource, which would be this documentary, that they came to our library. Filmed it, used some of the resources that we have in the collection as backdrops. They also interviewed me, Gregory Reese and a few other community members that were aware and knew Iccabod Flewelling. This letter was a thank you from their family.

Mr. Rashid:  That's wonderful. Let me also say to, just as a member of this board, is that one of the driving energies I have regarding building a museum is to honor the work that that man did. He's a Clevelander. He amassed a large collection of items that reflect our heritage and our journey in this country. When ... I won't say if, I will say when we build the addition onto this library he will be prominently displayed and given his proper place. I just wanted to add that I'm really happy about this. Thank you.

Mr. Mays:  Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rashid:  Yes sir.

Mr. Mays:  One question of the Director. Mr. Director, did you respond to the person that made the contribution to the library?

Mr. Latimer:  Yes, we have.

Mr. Rashid:  I'm glad to hear that, in fact I mentioned that to Mr. Silvera earlier this afternoon. I wondered if we had an opportunity to say thank you.

Mr. Latimer:  Right we have a system in place. Not only from donors, but the grants we received. We sent a letter in a timely manner.

Mr. Rashid:  Great. Thank you very much for that.
Mr. Mays: I see an audience member who wishes to speak, but you cannot participate at this point. There will come a time where you will be able to speak.

Mr. Rashid: Yes, we have a time set aside specifically for that.

Mr. Mays: Mr. Chairman, if there ... That's the end of your-

Mr. Latimer: That's the end of communications.

Mr. Mays: I move that we accept the report coming from the President.

Ms. McClarin: Except that wasn't the report, that was the communication.

Mr. Rashid: That was the communications-

Mr. Mays: Oh.

Ms. Shaheed: We were very fortunate to have that because years ago Case Western Reserve was trying to get pieces of his stuff. I remember that clearly.

Mr. Latimer: That is correct.

Mr. Mays: They do have some of his stuff. Beyond what was found in the basement-

Ms. Shaheed: Basement.

Mr. Mays: -and that's Case Western Reserve.

Mr. Mays: We need to track that to see just what was put there because there was a lot of stuff-

Mr. Rashid: Is there a current inventory of these items?

Mr. Mays: We asked that at the time, they didn't have a list of the inventory.

Mr. Latimer: Right. There's a list. We have a log of most of the items. However, there's no one to back check that list and make sure those things are actually there. However, Mr. Turner and I are working on a project to help make that happen.

Mr. Rashid: Okay, we won't get into the weeds on that right now, but we all are aware that we need to be ... Somebody's going to have to account for that stuff when you go knock on that door and ask for where it's at.

Ms. McClarin: That's right.
Mr. Rashid: When the time comes, if we have to ... Even if it takes legal representation, this body, this library will do whatever we take to make sure we take care of it and put it in its rightful place. Take care of it the way it should be taken care of.

Mr. Latimer: The items at Case Western Reserve, they're not ours. They belong to Case Western Reserve. The only items that are offsite, at the Cleveland Museum of Art, which is those Presidential letters.

Mr. Mays: To add to that there, more than the presidential letters, I saw some of the stuff, and it was sad as far as the, letters or documents of that nature, that we did not have the facility to maintain those, keep them from deteriorating. And they do have it there. And that's why we went along with it, after we found out that it was-

Mr. Rashid: ...That was why I presented the question about inventory, because if we place somethings off sight, just to make sure they're properly maintained, we want to make sure that we can account for where they are, so we will not run in, and say "We want them back." Because we do have the environment to properly maintain them. We know exactly we'll get it from. And we can also claim the legal ownership of that stuff.

Ms. McClarin: They are watching, Case Western Reserve Historical Society, that's what I meant. They are watching, because they were very interested years ago, because I went through their things that they had. And things on my microfiche, and they take credit for things in Cleveland...He was a Clevelander. All that is important to them. So, I'm glad that we have it.

Mr. Rashid: I actually visited him, and he took me to around that museum, and at the time, the roof was leaking, we were trying to figure out where ... at that time I was in the cable business with my partners, and we were trying to convince them, but we were in the early stages of development of the company. But like I said, rather than getting into the weeds of it, I just know that we should, as a historical organization, and being in East Cleveland for the library, and being ... our African, American people, we have to make sure that we take care of our own stuff. So, at some point, we will have the extension built on this building, with the proper environment that will maintain those documents because you can't just set them anywhere. In fact, that one of the things him and I were talking about at the time. That he was afraid of, because humidity, water, and all of these things, were starting to damage items that he had. But if there's another comment...

Mr. Mays: I have a comment. Isn't his facility on Hough Avenue I believe-?

Mr. Rashid: At one time it was.
Mr. Mays: Is it still open? Because I understand some of-

Ms. McClarin: That's why we have the collection.

Mr. Rashid: Because the building was falling apart. When I was there, I'm telling you, the ceiling was leaking, and he took me all around it. It was amazing, some of the things that he had.

Mr. Mays: Okay.

Ms. Shaheed: How far does it go back?

Mr. Latimer: It's on our website. I can give you that information, but not right now.

Mr. Rashid: So that concludes the communications aspect of our agenda?

Mr. Latimer: Yes.

X. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (C. Latimer)

Mr. Rashid: The Director's report, Mr. Latimer do you want to give your report?

Mr. Latimer: Sure.

Mr. Latimer: The directors report for August 2019. North youth Services area, December reading club, yoga, Mad Science, arts & crafts, board games. Staff also attended the back to school rally at Shaw High school. Our kid’s cafe, we passed out 550 lunches. 550 lunches were delivered, we gave out 496 for the month of August. Youth service staff also participated in in-service workshop staff training.

Mr. Latimer: Technology department provided some statistics; how bust they are. A lot of usage, our PC usage, total user is 2,357, it’s broken up by department, children’s department, computer lab, reference and teens. We had 48 attendees for our basic and advance computer classes that we do outreach to. That’s Seth McGregor, Salvation Army, Helen S. Brown and the Owl’s Nest, and you’ll see the numbers of those individual places. This is a new data I added to the report this month, this is our Wi-Fi stats, this is patrons who bring in their own devices, or they're outside, or they're somewhere near the building. For the month, we had 4,764 hits, for total hours of 29,373, that's an average per visit of six hours, per person who use our Wi-Fi.
Mr. Mays: How many hits?

Mr. Latimer: 4,764.

Mr. Rashid: I noticed this evening when I pulled up, my devices attached to the Wi-Fi here. So does these numbers say people who were actually in the library, or it counts whoever device-

Mr. Latimer: Inside the library.

Mr. Rashid: Inside the library?

Mr. Latimer: ... and certain parts outside of the building, but to a certain level. I don't think it reaches all the way down to Hayden, but I'm sure it goes up to Wendy's.

Mr. Rashid: It definitely reaches outside the building. There was a strong signal, and I immediately attached. That's good to here.

Mr. Latimer: So far, digital literacy pass book program, we've got 80 participants, when had 1,400 come through the job shop. We had 37 new followers, on social media. A total of 1,243. Our hot stats for August, we have 40, checked out, we had 28 returned. I will check back to see some of those 12, have been returned. In the month of September, but usually when we reach out to those patients, they do bring them back, and we do shut them off.

Mr. Rashid: Is that saying that the balance of the 28, the balance from the 20 to the 40, they overdue, they just happen to be within the same-

Mr. Latimer: They're overdue.

Mr. Rashid: They're overdue.

Mr. Latimer: Right. Somehow between August and September, they'll return, but we have not lost any to today.

Mr. Rashid: Okay, that's new.

Mr. Latimer: We also have a new adult education program, it's our Pre-GED program, we have 25 new students. Also, our jazz series for the month, last month. Horns & Things, we had a capacity of over 250 guests. That's nice.

Mr. Rashid: ... Beautiful.
Mr. Latimer: And also, we had a food giveaway, the partnership with Mutar Shaheed, where we pass out over 200 dinners. So that's another amazing program.

Mr. Rashid: Can we give ourselves a hand.

ALL: (Clapping.)

Mr. Latimer: Oh, the last report.

Mr. Latimer: Now on the last report, just some statistics, about the summer reading club. This was the first year Ohio Library Council and the state, asked for statistics. So, we were prepared to deliver on our statistics, which asked how many children's programs did we have during the summer, how many teen programs, adult programs, children participants, team participants, and adult participants. So, we are within compliance of our outcomes, of what the status asking us to report on, with regards to the summer reading club.

Mr. Rashid: Outstanding leadership Mr. Director, thank you, please keep up the good work.

Mr. Latimer: That concludes the Director's report.

Mr. Mays: I know it was very effervescent to say the least what's in his report, that has taken place here. I share the same sentiments that the chairman is expressing, and I hope that we will continue that. But the only thing I said to my colleagues, as he's given his report, make notes with the question you want to ask. Because he keeps getting interrupted while in the process of giving his report. And best of all, to be far to him. And he just-

Mr. Rashid: Comment noted.

Mr. Mays: Mr. Chairman, if there's no further discussion or comments, I move that we accept the report coming from the Director.

Ms. McClarin: I second.

Mr. Rashid: Motion is second. Mr. Turner could you please call the roll.

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (yes), Mr. Mays (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes),

Yes – 6
Motion passes.

XI. FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT (R. COCKFIELD)

Mr. Rashid: The next item on our agenda would be our Fiscal Officer’s report by Mr. Cockfield, Mr. Cockfield if you would.

Mr. Cockfield: Yes, thank you. Reading from my prepared text for the month of August. Financial reports as of August 31st have been reconciled and reviewed in committee. Reconcile cash balances are as follows. US Bank, $27,284.07 Our Star one account, $817,966.32 in our Star two account, $180,493.92, for a total of $1,025,744.31. Appropriations were reviewed, with several line items being excessive budget. Mr. Latimer and I presented the revisions to the finance committee for their review. Since overall, appropriations for the general fund are not going to change, and the appropriation resolution is not necessary. We will rearrange the budget balances and adjust some expenditures that were misapplied into the wrong accounts. The new appropriated amounts were reflected on October’s financial report. A final adjustment will be proposed at the end of the year to align all budget items.

Mr. Cockfield: We’ve received our first reimbursement of $50,000 from NOPEC, for the boiler project, and have deposited the check, and will paying the Gardiner invoice from that reimbursement. Our second invoice has been received, $75,000, and has been submitted to NOPEC for their approval and payment. This Friday, 09/20/2019, I’ll be discussing implementation of requisitions in the Blackbaud system. The requisitions’ system will allow Mr. Cooper and Ms. Flood to electronically transmit requisitions to Mr. Latimer for his approval, after approval, a purchase order is generated, which will encumber funds, pending the receipt for the invoice for payment.

Mr. Cockfield: I’ve sent a transmission of outstanding checks for deposited pay system with U.S. Bank, and I’m awaiting next steps. Once again, this is a program to aid us in preventing fraudulent activity on our check account. A check listing has
been sent to the bank, which is matched against checks, that are presented for payment. Any check not on our list will be set aside as an exception and will await the direct approval for payment. That completes my portion of the report. I'd like to turn the second half over to Ms. Chambliss to give a report on grand some projects.

Mr. Rashid:  Ms. Chambliss, please go right ahead.

Ms. Chambliss: Okay. East Cleveland has several projects and two active grants. Grant B, the Cleveland Foundation, jazz adult, we have $12,500, that will be their last installment, which we should receive November 30th, 2019. And then we have the Rienberger foundation, we have $18,296. Our projects, we have the senior outreach program, we have the snack program for the youth, we have youth literacy program, and also the youth chess. Currently we have two active grants, Cleveland foundation is one of them, performing arts center, and the other one is the Rienberger foundation grant, then the two active grants. That concludes my report.

Mr. Rashid: Are there any questions for the members?

Mr. Mays: The $12,000 is coming from whom?

Ms. Chambliss: That's coming from Cleveland foundation. That's part of the jazz. So that's the last installment.

Mr. Mays: ... that we will get this year?

Ms. Chambliss: Yes.

Mr. Mays: Okay. Well, is that all? Recycling other voices that are continuance grant that we have, we have the plot for it-

Ms. Chambliss: This is the continuance of the grant that we had from last year.

Mr. Mays: Okay. What about the one for $18,296?

Ms. Chambliss: Well, that's the newest on, that's the Reinberger, and that's for the outreach technology.

Mr. Mays: And this is the first time we got this grant?

Ms. Chambliss: Yeah, we just got this grant.

Mr. Mays: Okay. And is it continuing? None of these are matching the grants, they just talk about, "We don't have the match in. any funds-
Ms. Chambliss: Oh, no.

Mr. Mays: Okay, okay. And this is ... is it earmarked what we are to handle or-

Ms. Chambliss: Yeah. It has the specific ... what it's supposed to be for. Outreach for the seniors.

Mr. Mays: Oh, seniors.

Mr. Latimer: It's to purchase technology to go out and teach computer classes at those partners that we've identified, that we already go to, and reach out to some new ones.

Mr. Rashid: Are you aware of, or do you know that if the Cleveland foundation actually comes, to observe these different things that we do, to see if they have somebody in the audience, or somebody who ... is there-

Ms. Chambliss: I'm not sure.

Mr. Latimer: Yes, they do. They have been in attendance at our jazz series, and they come in periodically, quarterly to meet with our team. To talk about the progress of around our hotspots, and some of the other things that we're doing through the Cleveland foundation. The Rienberger Foundation, they will be back to see where we are, and in our outreach efforts. The lady, she came, and she told me, since she'll be coming back to follow up. But some of the other smaller grants that are not active, we just send in the end of the year report.

Mr. Rashid: How did we become engaged with Reinberger?

Mr. Latimer: Well, working with our grand writer, it's something that's an opportunity, we saw as an-

Mr. Rashid: So, we reached out to them?

Mr. Cockfield: Yes.

Mr. Rashid: Great job. Great job.

Mr. Mays: So, we have a grant writer on staff?

Mr. Rashid: Excuse me, Dr. Harris had her hand up.

Mr. Latimer: No, we have a grand writer on contract.
Mr. Mays: And can you ... well, we won't get into that, I'll leave that alone for another day.

Mr. Rashid: Okay. Ms. Harris, Dr. Harris, I'm sorry.

Dr. Harris: My question regarding the senior outreach. Is it located at any of the senior housing buildings, are we taking ... do we have a cart of laptops, or are these computers already on site at the facilities?

Mr. Latimer: No. We identify the organizations, the senior organizations like Alon Musk, and McGregor. All of those organizations, and some of the newer ones. Our staff is looking to expand those services. I don't know if he's the board president, or the school district ... I can't think of his name, but he passed another organization, that's a senior organization, to work with us. So, we take the technology equipment to them, and then we do the classes as well.

Dr. Harris: Okay.

Mr. Turner: Actually, witnessed when they were loading up on the stacks of carts that they were taking stuff over to McGregor one day. I was overwhelmed at the fact that they were taking that much responsibility, and at that point we were basically doing it in-house I believe, so it was great that we passed an assistance, because then it shows to somebody that we care.

Mr. Mays: I guess I will ask my question, it's quite applicable. Mr. Latimer, the grant writer here, is it predicated on the number of grants that she gets, a successful in, or she aid that way, or she paid at needed bases?

Mr. Latimer: As needed. However, she works with us, not only on writing the grants, but she works closely with our stuff. We worked together identifying potential funders, she also worked with us around our strategic plan. To make sure we're meeting our goals and objectives. And she also worked to set up meetings with the Cleveland foundation. There are a few other grants that we have pending, so it's an ongoing process.

Mr. Mays: So, she'll earn her keep?

Mr. Latimer: Yes.

Dr. Harris: I had one last question, and it's regarding the book mobile. Is there a book mobile outreach for seniors? I can answer my own question, I know the answer, I'm just asking. Is there a book mobile going on, or our outreach with books to the seniors who like to select books?
Mr. Latimer: That's a question I need to talk to Mr. Green about, I know we do take the technology out, and Ms. McClarin you know some other things.

Ms. McClarin: I don't know about nothing. I'm just kidding, but Dr. Harris I can say, that was a project that was coming up a year, and a half ago with library services that was looking at it, and I was actually the person when I went to the state meeting, to look into the book mobile. So, the thing is, we're doing a research on it, and that's some of the reporting I'll be doing when we do have our strategic planning meeting. Originally, even before this project took off. We will look into the book mobile. So, we've been talking to companies, we've been doing research on it. And now the book mobile was to go out to seniors. So, we haven't done that yet, actually this project came where, in the meantime we can get a book mobile, but we'll still get those services to them. So, we definitely-

Ms. McClarin: ... And I also thought the programs ... there's a federal state grant that I'm looking into, to support that. Like I said, I do have some stats on it. Another thing, a lot of the libraries seem to be doing it now. They're actually purchasing books mobiles, and they're different than they used to be. Because they actually use now the cargo van, they can transport anywhere you want to, you can have a bigger one. Interest as well, a lot of libraries are doing that, because they see the need of outreach, and so they're going old-school, and start purchasing book mobiles again.

Mr. Rashid: That's good. We're supporting one of our most valuable assets in our community, that is our seniors.

Ms. McClarin: And this would actually help. If we were to have these statistics of what we're doing without a book mobile, it would help us as well.

Mr. Rashid: Please Keep us updated. All right. As there anymore discussion?

Dr. Harris: No.

Ms. McClarin: Thank you.

Mr. Rashid: I guess that concludes our Fiscal Officer's report. And as for our finance committee report, I will defer to Mr. Gerald Silvera there, because we did meet this past Saturday. Mr. Silvera had some things he wanted to bring up.

Mr. Silvera: Thank Mr. Chair. The main thing I think I wanted to bring to the attention of the body is, Mr. Cockfield provided the finance committee with a rough copy of the internal control policy. Anas you know, the internal control policy is the governing document that establishes the administration and the accountability of all financial transactions of the library. This draft plan,
it will be used as a bases for future audits of the state, and also as a way to monitor and the accounting system. And integrate everything so everything works, moving on. So, we just got the first draft, this Saturday, and the committee will be getting together on a regular basis, we go through it, and make recommendations to fiscal officer, needing adjustments. But hopefully by October we should have a final draft for the Board to review.

Mr. Mays: Whom?

Mr. Silvera: For the Board review.

Mr. Mays: Oh, okay.

Mr. Rashid: It still in committee at this moment.

Mr. Rashid: That concludes this report? Thank you very much sir.

Mr. Latimer: We need to go back-

Mr. Mays: Where about this you got A and B here?

Mr. Silvera: The Finance Committee has a resolution, I'll read it as follows. Members of the finance committee have met to discuss and reviewed the following items and recommend approval to the library board of trustees. Resolution no. 901-

Mr. Rashid: ...Excuse me, does everybody have their copy in front of them?

Ms. McClarin: It's probably the last document in your packet.

Mr. Rashid: While we're looking at this, can I have a motion to approve the fiscal officers report.

Mr. Silvera: I move that we approve the fiscal officer's report.

Ms. Shaheed: I second.

Mr. Rashid: The motion is seconded. Mr. Turner will you please call the roll.

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (yes), Mr. Mays (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes),

Yes – 6
Motion passes.

XII. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Summary of Major Activity

Mr. Silvera: Mr. Chair I'd like to do a full reading on the resolution, we have Mr. Cockfield to give an overview and purpose behind the resolution.

Mr. Rashid: I think that's appropriate, and it's probably will help everybody as to what this about, while you're reading. Mr. Cockfield, please.

Mr. Cockfield: Sure. As everyone is aware, the PACE program involves the library being reimbursed for course from NOPEC the only project that is actually being funded by the PACE program is the boiler project. So, what essentially this means, is that any cost that we incurred in replacing the boiler, are going to be refunded to us by NOPEC. So, this resolution in essence says that any money that received from NOPEC, we have to record as revenue, and any payments that we make to Gardiner, in payment of the boiler, have to be recorded as an expense. As such, we have to account for the expense as an appropriation, and we have to account to the revenue as an increase in resources.

Mr. Cockfield: So, this resolution basically acknowledges the payment as the expense, and the necessary appropriation increase, and the receipt money as a recognition of revenue, which is covered by the certificate of estimated resources.
Mr. Rashid: I think that sums it up pretty well said. And it provides the complete transparency as to where we got our money from and where it went. Are there any other questions or discussions at this time, because Mr. Silvera is going to actually read the resolution.

Mr. Mays: I have two resolution of-

Ms. Shaheed: He's going to read the one that you need to know. Hold on for a second.

B. **Resolution 09-01-2019: To Amend and Increase the Building Fund Appropriation for Boiler Cost and Recognize Amendment to Certificate of Estimated Resources.**

Mr. Silvera: Okay. Members of the finance committee have met to discuss and review the following items and recommend approval to the library board of trustees. Resolution no. 09-01-2019, to increase the building fund appropriation for boiler cost and recognize the need to invest in the resources. Whereas the reimbursement of cost constitutes revenue, and the payment of charges constitutes expenses. We have resolved, the board of trustees, the East Cleveland Public library here by authorizes the fiscal officer to amend the 2019 building fund permanent appropriation, by increasing it, $237,247. Costs were contract, which will correspond with the amended increases of the certificate of estimated resources with the identical amount $237,247. I move for its approval.

Mr. Mays: Is there any discussion?

Mr. Mays: I have some, but I'm going to just keep it in, just go along with this, because this is enough. No, I'll discuss it later.

Mr. Rashid: Is there a second to the motion on this resolution?

Mr. Mays: I second.

Mr. Rashid: We have a motion and a second. Mr. Turner would you please call the roll.

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Rashid (yes), Dr. Harris (yes), Ms. McClarin (yes), Mr. Mays (yes), Mr. Silvera (yes), Ms. Shaheed (yes),

Yes – 6
Motion passes.

Mr. Rashid: The motion carries. I have to give a sigh of relief. Because it is important that the process be transparent. Mr. Cockfield works hard, and Ms. Chambliss works hard to make sure our finances are in order. It is a requirement that everything is recorded properly, and this did it for us. Thank you. Mr. Cockfield and Ms. Chambliss, thank you very much. Let’s see, the next item on our agenda will be the personnel committee report.

XIII. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Ms. McClarin: Yeah, personnel committee did not meet this month, and we have nothing to report out.

XIV. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mr. Rashid: That’s okay. Thank you very much. Next on the agenda will be the buildings and grounds committee report, and my honorable colleague Mr. Mays is going to give that report for us.

Mr. Mays: Thank you Mr. chairman. The buildings and grounds committee met on Saturday, September the 14th, 2019, at 3 p.m. Present at that meeting was Mr. Rashid, the president of the meeting tonight. As well as myself, along with Mr. Latimer, Mr. Cockfield, as well as Mr. Turner, and we had Mr. Silvera in the audience there as well. The buildings and grounds discussed in reference, with an updated in reference to the boiler. It is my understanding the boiler has been removed, and a new one put in its place and our newer

Resolution 09-01-2019 is approved.
one has been refurbished, painted, and all that stuff. And it's my understanding the boiler is on sight, and hopefully it will be installed, and hopefully be in operation by August, I believe that's August the 30th, am I correct?

Mr. Mays:  
...September 6th. Somewhere there around, well 27, completed by. I'm sorry. September 27. Should be installed by September the 27th, complete, and hopefully operate well. Also, as I said, it has been painted, the room has been painted. And I believe the other boiler has been refurbished... or repaired. The lighting hopefully will be completed, with change in the bulbs and things of that nature. And a lot of that stuff is taking place after working hours. The new lighting fixtures installed, and that hopefully should be completed by ... where did I have that. Completed by August the 30th-

Mr. Latimer:  
...September 27.

Mr. Mays:  
Oh, September 27 as well. Oh, I keep saying August, I mean September. Excuse me. A lot of the work is being done after hours, the next thing, the code of conduct. We'll discuss, and I asked Mr. Latimer informed us that he has not had an opportunity to speak with the person, or the person has come back to the facility. And I didn't advise him, in speaking with him, at least take someone with him to be present. He said he would do that. If you're not cognizant, I will remind you, the fence, the iron rod fence around the building, in front of the building here, and then comes around on the side. Someone ran into it, and I also advised Mr. Latimer to get a police report, and I asked also in reference, whether the insurance we had would cover it? It is attached to the building; it should come part of the building.

Mr. Mays:  
They would recommend that in the committee that you get out and get three other estimates or bids. I think our insurance is $500 or $5,000-

Mr. Rashid:  
$5,000

Mr. Mays:  
... $5,000 deductible. So, it was said that the estimate so far, I guess from them, would be $3,000 dollars.

Mr. Rashid:  
It was less than $3,000, so far, but haven't had a hard fix estimate. We're gathering numbers, and those numbers will be presented to us once we finally retrieve them.

Mr. Mays:  
So that will be less than, you think?

Mr. Rashid:  
Less than the deductible so it makes sense for our insurance to take it, also take a hit.
Mr. Mays: Right. And that's why we asked them to get three more bids, or-

Mr. Rashid: We just need two more.

Mr. Mays: Okay. That's from the insurance company, is that correct?

Mr. Latimer: No, it's from the company who install-

Mr. Mays: ...Oh, install.

Mr. Latimer: From my understanding, we were going to get an estimate from that company. If we didn't like the numbers, then to get three other estimates, or quotes. Two others.

Ms. McClarin: So, what you're saying, you like the numbers?

Mr. Mays: No, that was just happened this Saturday. They had not had an opportunity to do that. What else. The marquee, we discussed ... and those may not be cognizant of what a marquee is. It's a big billboard with advertising, whatever is going across it. And we want one large enough where people can see it, as passing. Many activities that's going on in this library, and it is a beacon in this community. We'd like to advertise, that's another way of advertising what's taking place here, all the activities that are taking place here. As the public is passing, they can see what's going on here.

Mr. Rashid: May I add something?

Mr. Mays: Sure, please.

Mr. Rashid: Our concern with the marquee is that it's tastefully done. We don't want to jam billboards in front of the library, so we have to take a look at it from an architectural standpoint. The best way to make the presentation without it looking like ... you know what I'm trying to say. To maintain the integrity of the architectural design of our library. And while I got the floor for a moment, I just wanted to say that, under the direction of director Latimer, Mr. Cooper, has been able to save us a lot of money in this process, with installing these lights, and in addition to that, the work that's being done downstairs. The new boiler is in fact in place, the concrete pad has been poured, the painting has been done. And the old boiler, which is basically be doing most of the work, has been totally refurbished.

Mr. Rashid: And we requested, as part of the negotiations with this company, Mr. Cockfield was able to get us a warranty, which will cover the library during the first year of operation. So, if there are any glitches, or any issues, they're going to stand behind. That's important too. We've got a really good team
working on our behalf, and from our meeting last week, I think it's clear that we're going to definitely ... everything should be done the end of September, going into the 1st of October. So, if the hawk blows, we'll be able to respond.

Mr. Mays: Excellent. The marquee looks something ... I don't know whether any of you have seen a marquee in front of East High, Shaw High School. There's a marquee that ... I'd like for ours to be a little larger than that, to be able to see. Because that one is moving pretty fast. But anyway, those are some of the things that ... Are there any other additional items to this report? I saw some hands-

Dr. Harris: Question, or maybe it's a comment. There's the county library on Green road. The county South Eastwood. They have a lawn, and I think it flows with the structure of the building, and I think that's what we're looking for. When we go in that direction, not just ... just look at theirs, and you get an idea of how it flows with the building. And, also, I do want to make a comment along the same lines. The sign outside, I mean the East. It has East Cleveland library, and then the minority health center. We need to refurbish that, make it look a little brighter. It's drably looking, I noticed that after I got out the car.

Mr. Rashid: Dr. Harris, that's exactly what I was thinking, that why I was mentioning getting an architect, a signed company, to come in and look at the architectural design of this building, and how it's presented, to make the sign fit in, and still be affective, but not just a giant billboard sitting in front of the place. We definitely don't want that. We'll take our time. The director said that they had already the process of looking into it. I guess the next step will be to get a couple of signed companies to on, give us some designs. Of course, those designs will have to be approved by this body at some point, but at least, we'll know that all of that has been taken into consideration.

Mr. Mays: Mister chairman, I saw Mrs.-

Mr. Turner: Yes Ms. McClarin, I'm sorry.

Ms. McClarin: One of the questions I was going to ask, is this going to be electronic, this Marquee?

Mr. Mays: Yeah-

Ms. McClarin: And just for clarification, I think you said, it was either $3500 or $3700 of one bid that had been presented.
Mr. Latimer: We're waiting for the estimates from the company that did the original installation. We have not received that yet. He just gave a general number.

Ms. McClarin: He, Mr. Mays?

Mr. Latimer: Mr. Mays. We haven't seen anything definite yet.

Ms. McClarin: ... because the impression I got is, the original company gave you a price of 35, okay.

Mr. Mays: They had contacted the original company that installed the iron rod.

Mr. Rashid: Right, and we want to get that back in hard numbers.

Mr. Mays: I'm sorry, it was suggested in the meeting by one of my colleagues that lets not only just go with them. Other companies perhaps can do the same identical thing, maybe cheaper than-

Ms. McClarin: I was just trying to understand where that figure came from, that's all.

Mr. Mays: Okay.

Mr. Rashid: So that concludes the building-

Mr. Mays: That concludes...

XV. LIBRARY SERVICES

Mr. Rashid: All questions have been answered? So, we move on to the next item on the agenda, which is library services committee report. Chairperson.

Ms. Shaheed: We did not have a meeting this month.

XVI. NEW BUSINESS
Mr. Rashid: Okay. That concludes that part of our agenda. So, we can move on to new business.

Mr. Mays: I'm sorry, I apologize.

Mr. Rashid: Is there any new business to be presented to the committee? Mr. Silvera.

Mr. Silvera: I had one item that I want to bring to the board...

Mr. Mays: Excuse me, I have a death in my family, so I have to leave.

Mr. Rashid: I'm sorry to hear that sir.

Mr. Silvera: What I would like the library to look at is how we can strengthen our relationship with friends of the library. I think as an institution, as an organization that's married to us, we need to cultivate it and make it a stronger relationship, even to a point of the library giving formal reports to the friends and vice versa. And that we also engage as board members, being members of the friends, working there, getting involved, and likewise. I think the more we strengthen that relationship, it's better for us on the long run. If you look at modifying our strategic plan, upgrading it, that's the key component of this relationship that we want to cultivate. A stronger working relationship with the friends.

Ms. Shaheed: Yeah, I agree a 100%. I met a woman... She said they had meetings here, the first Tuesday of the month. Yes. I told her that I'd trying to come ... but she was saying the same thing that you're saying now.

Ms. McClarin: Yeah, I just want to say I agree also, as a matter of fact, because of school, I haven't been able to make the meeting but it's on my agenda to attend one of the meetings just to thank the Friends for that lovely trip, fundraising that they did. Recently taken us to the African American Museum. And I agree 100%. Matter of fact, that was one of the things that I had when I interviewed..., I wanted to work in relationships with the friends. I have been able to support them in raising funds for their music program. So, I've done a few things. But I think that they're definitely strong support in the library, they really do support the library.

Ms. McClarin: And even with a trip that we took, they had packages with all the information they introduce any members that was on there, and a lot of people were interested. Some people who was from other parts of the city of Cleveland. And they were very interested. As a matter of fact, one young
lady wanted more information about the GED programs that we had. So, I just want to say, I agree with you 100%.

Ms. Shaheed: So where is the GED, it used to be down here?

Ms. McClarin: Down here.

Ms. Shaheed: Oh, okay.

Ms. McClarin: And another thing Mr. Silvera, we have started, given awards to friends, for the work they’re doing. And that’s one of reasons why. As a matter of fact, I see they store them up in the display way, upstairs in the hallway.

Mr. Latimer: The friends of they did attend our summer reading club finale, thanks to Ms. Brown, And they also donated bicycles, to that event, for children that participated. Yes, I did send a thank you, it was read at their last meeting. So, this Brown took the lead on that thank you very much.

Ms. Brown: You’re welcome. That’s where you donated four bikes.

Ms. McClarin: And I think that trip was a part of some of the money that they raised.

Mr. Latimer: Ms. McClarin, thank you for representing the library for that trip as well.

Ms. McClarin: And since we’ve talked about it, they also took a survey about if people want to take more trips like that, and I thought that would be an excellent opportunity for the library to partner with the friends. When they’re raising funds like that, because the money is going right back into ... here, for instance, to give you an idea, say for instance, they sponsored the water, the refreshments or something like that, that could be an area where the library could take that load off of them. When we collaborate with them. Say for instance, they want to take two buses, and then the library board members and employees will say, "we’ll be responsible for selling so many bus tickets." That’s just the way we can collaborate. Without saying that, we’re paying for the trip.

Mr. Rashid: Those are all good ideas. Mr. Silvera.

Mr. Silvera: The League of Women Voters will be hosting a candidate’s forum here at the Library in the performing arts center on October 12th 2p.m. To 4:30p.m. this Saturday and will be hosting candidates for the board of education for council ward, East Cleveland Council ward 2 and ward 4.

Mr. Rashid: When is this?
Mr. Silvera: October 12. From 2 to 4:30p.m.

Mr. Mays: Since we're interjecting the political arena in here, September the 19th, At the Democratic Party, is meeting at. Stephanie Tubbs Jones, on the second floor, as you get off the elevator, you turn right, and it will take you to the room where it's being held. And immediately after, the precinct committee persons will be endorsing a candidate, the candidates that are running for ward 4, ward 2. Those are the two seats up for election, at the same meeting, the school board-

Mr. Rashid: Mr. Mays, does that mean it's taking place at the library?

Ms. McClarin: Yeah. The things he's talking about-

Mr. Rashid: That's library business, I don't know where it's coming from. That's Stephanie Tubbs Jones business.

Ms. McClarin: It's political, but it's happening here-

Mr. Rashid: That's how he brought it up.

Mr. Mays: That's why I'm making mention, that is the political arena, that's what I said.

Mr. Rashid: ... it's happening here at the library.

Mr. Mays: I understand that. Mr. Chairman, please. And their school board will follow, and he also we'll be at that same meeting, and will be endorsing the school board of candidates-

Ms. Shaheed: ...There's another group that's interested in trying to register 18-year olds here at the library, we have to talk. I met this woman during the summer, not the summer but in the spring. So, we'll talk afterwards.

Mr. Rashid: okay. Does that conclude all of our new business? Any old business?

**XVII. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Mays: Yes. Mr. Chairman-

Mr. Rashid: Can I let Ms. McClarin speak?
Ms. McClarin: Which one are we on? You're on old business?

Mr. Rashid: Old business, yes.

Ms. McClarin: You sure want this?

Mr. Rashid: Yes, please Ms. McClarin.

Ms. McClarin: Thank you Mr. Chair. I want to say that in due respect for my fellow trustees, I'm the chairperson for strategic planning, and we've been trying to set a meeting for strategic plan. But what I want to bring up is, I have spoken with Mr. Latimer, and he'd planned the meeting for this Saturday. We need at least two hours for our first meeting, because this is our first meeting for the newly elected officials. And the meeting was set for two o'clock. And then the meeting was changed, and we had to reset for one, I had already ... I did tell him already that I had a doctor meeting planned. That early part, but I could make it here at two, when it got changed to one, there was a problem, and then I had to cancel at the last minute, but we didn't have enough time to get to everyone. I definitely want to mention it today. Number one, we still have the plan to meet, and number two, it was just the face got messed up there. So, apologize-

Mr. Rashid: That's okay, no need to apologize Ms. McClarin, this is a volunteer and you're volunteering your time. So, we appreciate every effort you can afford to make it happen. If there's any work with each other, we'll get there.

Ms. McClarin: Okay, Mr. President.

Mr. Mays: Excuse me Mr. Chairman, but-

Mr. Rashid: I was trying to ... I understand sir. You were actually in line, but I was trying to be fair about the amount of time that each person has been given to speak tonight so that you will likely second, so please.

Mr. Mays: Thank you. Two things. One, Mr. Latimer have you heard from the state in reference to the records in which we gathered together to ... in reference to the federal ... during the election and the ethics committee-

Mr. Latimer: No Mr. Mays, I have not heard from the commission in regard to that information that was requested and sent.

Mr. Mays: Secondly, I thought we had going out with policies and procedures meeting time set up. And I don't think they're on Saturdays, maybe that's one of the reasons. Saturday is a day that people do things around our homes, and things are taking care of business. Because some of us are working through
the week, and Saturdays are the only time that we have, and then you want
to take that to have a meeting. So, let's be mindful about that please. I'll just
throw that out or whatever it's worth.

Mr. Rashid: Have you completed sir?

Mr. Mays: Yes sir.

Mr. Rashid: Dr. Harris you have the floor.

Dr. Harris: Thank you, thank you Mr. Rashid. I follow what he was saying about
Saturdays. It's my understanding, I think it was February meeting that Mrs.
Turner appointed Dr. Marion Harris, the chairperson of strategic planning.
So that is my understanding that you're the co-chairperson of strategic
planning. That's everything, check the record. I have no problem with you
chairing it. I'll just keep moving on, because I'm in a different direction. I
think with a strategic plan, Mr. Latimer mentioned that the person who
writes the grant, helped write that strategic plan. And that's who I would
initially like, if I chaired, to meet with at first because I had a lot of questions
concerning the document. But I don't have a problem, I have a lot of work
that I do, and I'm not looking for any extra work.

Mr. Rashid: Now, clarification is what it sounds like you want to me.

Dr. Harris: That's what I'm trying to say. I can yield that committee with you Ms.
McClarin without a doubt, I'm more than willing.

Mr. Rashid: I wasn't aware of that either, it totally went across my ears.

Ms. McClarin: Really?

Mr. Rashid: Yeah, I thought you was the one with strategic planning as well.

Ms. Shaheed: I remember when she said it. We we're talking about committees, because
hers was changed. And I remember that was brought when she was in
charge with that. That is why I was confused, I said, "Well, something must
be going on, and I'm not aware of."

Ms. McClarin: No, no. What happened was that particular meeting you're talking about.
Well, one meeting between there, I was absent. I think that's that original
meeting that all the officers were given out. And from when I came back to
the following meeting, what I understand is that seat was open, and they
were saying, we've put Dr. Harris here, but we going to take her there, or
whatever. And then when I volunteered, that's what I thought- Do we have
our list? Is it on the list? No, I'm just telling you how I got there. When I said that take into being, I probably misunderstood.

Ms. McClarin: ... But I know that Dr. Harris and I still be trying to get together and do it. So, it's no problem.

Mr. Rashid: Okay. Well, between the two of you, you can work it out.

Ms. McClarin: Yeah, it's no problem.

Mr. Mays: Mr. Chairman, what happens? Remember building and grounds, she was appointed to.

Mr. Rashid: But they've already straightened it out, they said between the two of them, they'll work it out.

Mr. Mays: And they agreed?

Ms. McClarin: We're still on the same team.

Mr. Mays: That's what happened, and then she appointed-

Ms. Shaheed: We are all in the same page, so we can move forward.

Mr. Rashid: Yes ma'am.

Dr. Harris: Thank you.

Mr. Rashid: All right. So, at this point, is there any other old business up for discussion?

Mr. Mays: No. Mr. Chairman I move that we go to the audience.

XVIII. AUDIENCE PARTICPATION

Mr. Rashid: Having non? Can we move to audience participation? I'm glad to see that we do have an audience tonight.

Jane Sheets: I'm very pleased to be here. For those of you that don't know me, my name is James Sheets. I sat on this prestigious board for many years. I was so excited when you mentioned Lcabad Flewellen, that's why I thought the
audience participation at the very beginning. He is the most overlooked
person; he is the leading black historian. Fanny Lewis told me ... I met
Iccabod Flewellen when I was 22 years old. He was a mail guy, one of the
federal buildings, and he always peeked at me. That's when I met him. And
I'll tell a really cute story at the end. He was very difficult to work with. He
spent every dime of his money on black history. I would call Iccabod, and we
would talk for hours. ...He told me President George Washington's heirs
lived on 115 Superior. He told me everything about black Cleveland.

Jane Sheets:

When I was appointed to the Board of election, as chairman, replacing
Arnold Pinkney, in 1976. They knew it was the first in the state, county and
all that. And Iccabod called me he said, "No Jane, you're the first back to
cheer a board elections in the country." And then I thought about it.
Because those of you that have anything to do with politics know, there's
very few black election officials. And when I got appointed, they thought it
was going to be case swap general. Because I was young, cute with red hair.
When I got on board. My partner was Tony Garofoli. Tony Garofoli was rich,
white, powerful, law practice in Florida, law practice in Ohio, and mafia. And
he thought he's going to walk over me. And what I tell the politicians now, is
to learn how to fight.

Jane Sheets:

I say, they're used to the angry black man and the angry black woman. The
very first instance I had with him was when the secretary for both of us was
a woman ninety years old, who couldn't type. Every time I give her some
type, she had to take it to have somebody type it. So, I brought a black
woman up and gave her a $1,400 dollar raise. Tony Garofoli came flying into
my office, and he says, "We have never given anybody that much of a raise."
Instead of arguing, I said, "Oh, I'm sorry, as to next time Tony, we'll discuss
it." Why should we discuss it with the secretary of state was my boss and
the Secretary of State was his boss? What he didn't know is that smart Jane
knew that the Board of election had a list of every dime that was spent in
the board of election, for every month. And he had given one of his Italian
friends a $3,000 raise.

Jane Sheets:

Now the angry black woman or a new black man would have said that.
"What do you mean, telling me that you've never, when you've just gave."
He did everything for the contract out on me. I was a realtor and I was on
the real estate... When they were fighting the signs. In black areas you see
"for sale" signs everywhere. In the white area you have to know, go to the
realtor or your friends. And so, they put me on the legislative committee.
So, then all of a sudden, they said, "Do you know how to register people to
vote?" I said, "Of course, I was chairman of the board of election." So, I said,
"I'm too busy, I want you to do that." I'll do busy work. I met Tony; this is
way after I left. I met Tony, and he said, "Oh Jane, I think it's wonderful that
you're on the Legislative Committee for the real estate board, because with your political background, and your real estate background." I said oh, oh. Tony told them not to put that woman on there.

Jane Sheets:  
Because when you're the first I guess any of you have ever been the first, when you're the first of anything, you suffer. My first election, I told ... someone called me, because even on election, they even need workers. And one of my friends called said they wanted to work. I said called the board and tell them to put you on. She called me back, and she said they said you didn't have the authority to do that. So, I went into the board, and my secretary, her sister worked on the first floor. She I don't know what's wrong with your bosses walking all so fast. So, I went into the assistant director's office, and he loved me. And I said, "I had someone called the board, smile, I had someone come on board, I told him to put him on, and they said that I had no authority." And then of course nobody knew who said that.

Jane Sheets:  
I said, "While I'm here, let me say something." As long as the board of elections letterhead says Jane B. Sheets, comma, Chairman, Cuyahoga county board of elections, I expect anyone who calls and uses my name to be treated with dignity." Even though he hardly spoke to me after that, for the rest of my term he hardly spoke to me. It was very important.

Jane Sheets:  
So Iccabod, I was going to tell you. Iccabod ... I tried, everybody to help him. But he was so hard to get along with, they couldn't do it. And I never felt it, at being at the library, was working out, because very few people used micro-fiche. Case Western Reserve wouldn't take it. They tried to get him to take it, but if anybody ever saw Iccabod's house, they would want to take it because he had all these file cabinets, and they didn't know what it was insects, roaches.

Jane Sheets:  
... the sad part about it is, his niece is in charge of it. He has a brother here, but the brother has nothing to do with it. But the Fanny Lewis told me that as long as she lived, she would make sure that museum did not get a dime. Because when I got appointed to the Board of election, he had me give him a picture of bigger than one of these ledges. And we have no idea what happened to it.

Jane Sheets:  
They found his artifacts outside, they found it in the basement, I think somebody mentioned that. It was terrible the way they treated Iccabod.

Mr. Mays:  
Thank you-

Jane Sheets:  
... So, if he's not alleged, he told me that they're trying to get him.
Ms. Shaheed: They were, because I did some research there a couple of years back, and they had a black woman, whom I worked with. And she brought him up, and they would love to have his work, but they were having difficulty trying to get it.

Jane Sheets: Yeah, well, I'm going to mention it to this brother, although his brothers have anything to do. Let me say something real cute about Lccabod. When he was dying, even, even before he died, he was still good at black history. And he was over to the nursing home on Wade Park. And I went over to see him. And he said, "Jane, when your husband died in 1995, I thought for sure you were going marry a doctor or a lawyer, If I had known that you weren't going to marry a doctor or a lawyer, I would have asked you to marry me." ...I knew he was dying. I said, "But that's your fault, you didn't ask."

Mr. Mays: And I know you were quite linguistic when we had five minutes.

Jane Sheets: What you say Mr. Mays?

Mr. Rashid: ...Thank you so much for your contribution. I'll give you this gavel after the meeting is over. Yes, Mr. Fambrrough.

Mr. Fambrrough: Hello everyone.

Mr. Fambrrough: Since you brought up Lccabod Flewellen, I knew him, and I visited him at his home where he had artifacts, which later became part of the museum. It's quite a compelling story. But the thing I want to cover with you guys is that he sought out this library to deposit and donate a portion of his collection. And he saw this place rather than Case Western Reserve, or Historical Society, amongst other places. He saw white supremacy, now some of us are blind. But a few of us see that too, I'm one of them. And he didn't want any of his materials going there. Because those people despise and hated him, and us, and he knew it. So that wasn't good enough for him. He came here, where black people would protect his donation.

Mr. Fambrrough: And that's why I worked so hard to defeat a merger with between this library in Cuyahoga County. Now we won. But that's why, if you never knew, you heard from me, firsthand. I have been to these last few meetings here and talk to you about the library being a political subdivision. And I took that point to the Board of Education. The school boards. It had a funny response out of there. Judge Keenon said to me that she would have her lawyers look into it. That was June, at the regular school board meeting. I went to the July meeting, no word, I went to the August meeting, no word, I went to the September meeting, no word. And that's just the facts.
Mr. Fambrough: But the thing is, no research has been done. I have told I have researched and have shared it with you here. You should know, unless you just don't want to know, and that's possible too. I think there's people here who don't want to know. But the thing is that you are a political subdivision. In fact, you get funded because you are a political subdivision. They don't fund anything, but libraries that are political subdivisions, and all of them are. So, in Ohio the funding stream is different from some other states. Here to get money from the PLF, you must be a political subdivision. So quite frankly, there shouldn't be any further ado with whether we are or not. That's silly. I'm giving documents to the library through the director, and I sent you all documents through email. So, I've done your job in terms of making you aware that you are in fact a political subdivision, and there's no more to it.

Mr. Rashid: I did receive those documents Mr. Fambrough, and the issue that brought that into question, or into focus, has been resolved, and so now it's a moot point, because it proved itself out to be truth, because we moved forward, identified what we had to do, and accepted PACES funding, and are now using that money. So, thank you, but it proved out to be the case where we were able to receive the funding directly. And it is because that we are a subdivision, although the school board does have involvement with us because they import the people who sit here.

Mr. Fambrough: That's all they do. I'm glad you said that. There's no-

Mr. Rashid: But that is a significant thing in itself, because they comprise this board.

Mr. Fambrough: Yeah, but... but that's all you can do. So then over your shoulders, or-

Mr. Rashid: They don't treat us as such, as far as to my personal experience with them.

Mr. Mays: Chairman his time has expired-

Mr. Fambrough: That's not true. I'm not-

Mr. Mays: I'm keeping the time Mr. Fambrough.

Mr. Fambrough: I'm not finished yet.

Mr. Mays: Your time has expired.

Mr. Fambrough: We're not finished yet.

Mr. Mays: You had five minutes. That's the norm.

Mr. Fambrough: But you're not chairing the meeting Mr. Mays.
Mr. Mays: No, I have to. The norm says five minutes.

Mr. Rashid: Mr. Mays, come to order, come to order. Can you move forward to conclude your statement?

Mr. Fambrough: Yeah, absolutely.

Mr. Rashid: Thank you very much, I appreciate that.

Mr. Fambrough: The boiler thing. With one boiler remaining, and the new boiler could be problematic in the future if there are problems with heat. That's one point I want to make, you have a grant writer I heard, in the meeting, and I want to say that the wall upstairs is a good place to start. Further, I want to say that the original grant writer that wrote the new wing, wrote the grants that came in at about $5 million was raised to put the new wing on to the library, that person was still in the area a few years ago. And it needs to be researched. And if you as a board think is appropriate, we should contact that person again, to write some more grants. That's a proven grant writer-

Mr. Rashid: Okay, you can speak to the director offline. You're definitely welcome to do that, but I think that has to conclude your remarks.

Mr. Fambrough: The last point I wanted to make; we're talking about the Ichabod Flewelen collection-

Mr. Rashid: We spoke about that earlier in the meeting, but you have to conclude your remarks in fairness to the other people that are here.

Mr. Fambrough: I just want to say, write me down for encouraging you to move towards establishing a museum here and as part of the East Cleveland Public Library.

Mr. Rashid: We spoke about that in depth before you got here. This very evening.

Mr. Mays: Thank you.

Mr. Rashid: Are there any other members of the audience that would like to speak. Hearing that are-

Mr. Mays: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a comment here. And let me set the record straight, As has been stated here before, stating the record straight. First of all, we have five minutes with the audible participation. Secondly, there was a speaker stated that, to save this library. This person takes sole responsibility. As if he was the hero, he's the only one. That is not true. When this library, when Mr. Clifford came to East Cleveland-
Mr. Rashid: Hold on. I don't want to go into a historic tutorial, all I'm saying out is-

Mr. Mays: I'm responding to-

Mr. Rashid: The two of you can discuss offline.

Mr. Mays: Excuse me Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman-

Mr. Rashid: I'm trying to be as respectful as I can, but it is not respectful. What I'm saying to you is it is time for this meeting to conclude, at this point. There is no need for us to go into this, this history that-

Mr. Mays: No, it's not history. I'm trying to straighten out some-

Mr. Rashid: But there's no need to do that, because there's nobody disputing it. There's no one disputing it.

Mr. Mays: I'm disputing it.

Mr. Rashid: But that's between you and this gentleman.

Mr. Mays: No. Mr. Chairman, he spoke publicly, I'm speaking publicly as to what happened to save this library

Mr. Rashid: I'm going to give you the same five minutes that we gave him. First thing I think-

Mr. Mays: I don't need five minutes.

Mr. Rashid: There's no need to do that, he has five minutes, you got five minutes. And then we're going to conclude this meeting, and everybody is going to go watch the game (Browns vs Jets).

Mr. Mays: I would've said what I had to say, if you hadn't interrupted me. Number one, Mr. Clifford was the president of this this library board. He came to East Cleveland city hall and made a presentation in reference to this library being annexed to come out of the county library association. And I stood up and asked who have you that authority. Have you had a meeting with the residents of this community, like we're having? Then I talked to the school board. Then we all came together... I guess the spoke to him as well and said you don't have the authority to do that. And that's why I told him at city hall, "It's on record." And so that's why he put it on record here, I want to put it on record. He doesn't know what he's talking about. He was not the one that started this, because I started that ball rolling. I went to the
democratic party, and I made mention of it there, what was taking place with the library board was trying to do, with this library.

Mr. Rashid: One thing the both of you can be happy about, is that we're all sitting here tonight.

Mr. Mays: It was the people that did it, and that's what I want to get on record.

**XIX. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Rashid: Do you guys have a motion to adjourn this meeting?

ALL: Yes.

Mr. Rashid: Do I have to make the motion?

Mr. Mays: I move that the meeting, this library meeting be adjourned.

Mr. Rashid: The meeting is now adjourned.

[Meeting adjourned at 08:12 pm]
Ms. Terra Turner, President

Dr. Mary Ann Harris, Secretary