

East Cleveland Public Library  
Regular Board of Library Trustees Meeting

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021  
12:00 PM (Noon)

MP3  
RBOT20210123

Mr. Rashid called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**  
**A. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mr. Rashid, Mr. Mays, Dr. Harris, Ms. Shaheed, Ms. Sharpley, Mr. Silvera, Dr. Harris, Ms. McDonald

A quorum exists. Present – 7

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

**II. LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING**

**Mr. Rashid**                    Alrighty. At the risk of sounding like a ragtag band. Can we skip over the "Lift Every Voice and Sing"?

**Ms. Shaheed**                Yes.

**Mr. Rashid**                    For anybody watching on YouTube, I think would be an embarrassment if we attempt to do it on this forum. We're going to move over that, and I'll move for the approval of the agenda.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Mr. Silvera**                    Mr. Chairman, I move for the adoption of the agenda.

**Dr. Harris**                    MaryAnn Harris, second.

**Mr. Rashid**                    We have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion about changes to the agenda?

**Mr. Silvera** We are not making any changes, are we? Now that everyone is here?

**Mr. Rashid** I don't think so. Okay, hearing none. Mr. Turner, would you please call the roll?

Discussion: None

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

Yes – 7

Motion passes.

Mr. Silvera moved and Dr. Harris seconds the approval of the agenda.

The agenda is approved.

**IV. APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2020.**

**Mr. Rashid** Seven yeses. The agenda has been approved. Next item on the agenda is the approval of regular board meeting minutes from November 16th, 2020. Do I hear motion?

**Mr. Silvera** Mr. Chairman, I'll make a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

**Ms. Shaheed** Carol Shaheed, I second that motion.

**Mr. Rashid** I heard a motion and a second. Is there any discussion?

**Mr. Mays** Yes. Mr. Chairman, I have a question...

**Mr. Mays** ...in regard to the property that was in the minutes and you had appointed a committee. I'm wondering do they have any information in reference to the property that we were concerned about.

**Mr. Silvera** We haven't met yet, Mr. Mays.

**Mr. Mays** You have not met. Okay. All right. Thank you.

**Mr. Rashid** We had a motion. And is there any other discussion on?

**Mr. Mays** ...I got one other. I wanted to know if Mr. Cockfield is he present?

**Mr. Cockfield** As I am Mr. Mays.

**Mr. Mays** Have you had an opportunity to just speak with the committee that was also in minutes that you were going to make some changes or whatever? Did you have an opportunity concerning those changes that you talked about?

**Mr. Cockfield** I don't know what changes are being referenced Mr. Mays? I'm sorry.

**Mr. Mays** If you look on page 15. You said something in reference to...

**Mr. Cockfield** ...I don't have the minutes in front of me.

**Mr. Mays** You do not? You spoke in reference to discussing with the finance committee's changes in...

**Mr. Cockfield** Well, let me just say this. The Finance committee has not met. Yeah, we didn't meet this last month. So, whatever changes I might have suggested had not been done nor have they been discussed.

**Mr. Rashid** As a matter of fact, part of our meeting today, because I don't know if any of the committees actually met. Because at this point, we have not officially sworn in the new members to the committees and roll everybody has. At this point, you know, I have the list of what we had before. And I wanted to confirm that we will continue going forward with that list. So that by the time that our next meeting comes up, we'll all have an opportunity to meet, and everybody will know which committees that they're on because everybody's pretty much where, we've already discussed, but we just have not confirmed it for this year at this point. And you know, maybe that bears discussion now. But let's take the motion that's on the floor. It's been second. And this is the discussion part. So maybe we want to move to a vote if there's no further discussion on the minutes. Hearing no further...are you satisfied now, Mr. Mays? Can I move forward?

**Mr. Mays** The committee has not met. So, yes.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay. So, Mr. Turner, would you please call the roll?

Discussion: None

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

Yes – 7

Motion passes.

Mr. Silvera moved and Ms. Shaheed seconds adopting the minutes for 09/21/2020.

Minutes from 09/21/2020 are approved.

**V. SELECTION AND SWEARING IN OF OFFICERS**

**Mr. Rashid** Seven yeses. So, the motion to approve the regular board meeting minutes has passed. Next item on the agenda is the selection and swearing in of officers. We still had one office, that was outstanding, and everyone cast their votes and the selection by the board was that Ms. Shaheed was going to be the secretary. She was nominated and voted in as secretary for the board.

**Mr. Rashid** So I think at this point, I think it would be appropriate for Ms. McDonald to take the floor.

**Ms. Shaheed** Thank everyone for voting for me that did.

**Mr. Rashid** Congratulations. And you're welcome.

**Ms. Shaheed** Thank you.

**Mr. Rashid** Ms. McDonald, you can take the floor and she's actually going to do the swearing in of the officers.

**Ms. McDonald** First and foremost, congratulations to those of you who are being sworn in today. And I'd like to say as being part of this board, again, I'm always looking forward to working with everybody and doing great things for the community and the residents in the city of East Cleveland. So, I'm going to get to the exciting part of swearing everyone in.

**(Ms. McDonald swears in Mr. Rashid as Board President, Mr. Mays as Board Vice President, Ms. Shaheed as Board Secretary and Mr. Cockfield as Fiscal Officer.)**

**Ms. McDonald** All right, so that concludes the swearing in ceremony. And congratulations again to everyone.

**Mr. Rashid** Thank you very much Ms. McDonald.

**Ms. Shaheed** You did a fantastic job, thank you very much.

**Ms. McDonald** Thank you.

**Mr. Rashid** As the next part of our board meeting, it has been brought to my attention that I need to mention this on our broadcast because it's pertaining to the swearing in process in a virtual meeting. And it goes as follows the Ohio House Bill number 404 allows for virtual public meetings. The following rules will continue to govern virtual public meetings, resolutions and formal actions of any kind will be effective just as if they had occurred in an in-person meeting. Members of the public body who attend the meetings virtually will be considered present for the purposes of voting and establishing a quorum. public bodies must give at least 24 hours prior notice of virtual meetings to the public and all parties necessary to the meeting and the media that has requested notice in a manner which adequately provides time and the location of the meeting as well as the manner by which the meeting will be conducted. In the case of an emergency immediate notice of the meeting need only be given to necessary parties and the media that has requested notice. The next point is a method must be established of conversing with witnesses and receiving evidence by means of technology equipment, which is widely available to the public. The next bullet points the public must be given access to the meeting. By means consumer it consummate, with the method by which the meeting is being conducted, that the public can observe in here all discussions and deliberations live stream of video conferencing call in numbers for the teleconference, the library's legal counsel, as stated, that oaths can be taken via zoom provided the witness can be seen raising his or her right hand and be sworn. And that concludes the information that I'm supposed to transmit to our group as well as to the public. So that concludes that necessary a little bit of housekeeping. The next item on our agenda is communication that...

**Mr. Mays** ...You did not recognize the staff that's in attendance for this meeting as well as Mr. Latimer and Mr. Cockfield and Mr. Turner...

**Mr. Silvera** ...and Ms. Green.

**Mr. Mays**

Oh, and Ms. Green. I didn't know she was here. No, I'm just saying you did not recognize them at the beginning of the meeting.

**Mr. Rashid**

I'm sorry. You're right, sir. I did not do that. So, the next item is communications. Having been received. Mr. Director, Mr. Latimer, are there any communications?

**VI. COMMUNICATIONS.**

**Mr. Latimer**

Oh, yes, Mr. President. Good afternoon board and community. We have two communications. The first communication is a memo from the East Cleveland City School. In regard to the students coming back in person, this memo dated January 14th, 2020. However, the East Public Library did not receive this communication until late last week. We made calls to the board members in regard to this memo. I also spoke, specifically, with Dr. Harris and Sheila Sharpley from the Library Services Committee, which gave us a charge. Dr. Harris' response to me was, come up with a plan and Ms. Sharpley's response was, we don't have any options but to serve our children. So, I'd like to thank the Board for their leadership, and I will report out our plan in response to this memo in the Director's report. So, I didn't want to read the communications. So, the second communications are library conferences for 2021. We have a list of dates, the actual conference, and the city. So, Mr. Cockfield and I are working on a budget for the final appropriations to move us forward in 2021. We are budgeting \$2,200 per board member to attend conferences this year. However, we are aware that there may be some adjustments and flexibility in these conferences happening. However, we do have the dates March 6, the Ohio Library Council, library trustees' workshop this will be on Zoom. This is encouraged for new trustees, June 24 to June 29, the American Library Association, the city will be Chicago, Illinois. May, there's no specific date in May 2021 for Book Expo USA, which happens in New York City. I will give a date as soon as it's announced. July 28 to August 1, Black Caucus of the American Library Association. This is going to take place in Tulsa, Oklahoma. October 13th to the 15th will be in Ohio library Conference in Columbus, Ohio. We have a few board members that attend the National Association of Black storytellers. That date has not been announced. And the PLA (Public Library Association) was planned for Portland, Oregon, it's been moved to 2022. So, when we get those dates, I will let the Board of Trustees know as we get closer to these days if you're interested in attending any of these conferences where

we will share our Details. Mr. Turner will be the one to work with all of the registration and bookings. So, we will make this a regular communications as we get closer to the dates of the conferences, so check your schedules. If there's something you want to attend, there's money in the budget to support your advocacy for the East Cleveland Public Library. So that's all I have for communications.

- Mr. Mays** Mr. Chairman.
- Mr. Rashid** Yes, sir. Mr. Mays.
- Mr. Mays** Mr. Carlos. The National Association of Black Storytellers is going to be held. I know you said the date would be provided later, but you did not say anything as to where it would be held.
- Mr. Latimer** They have not given us a location. I know. Dr. Harris, are you aware of a location for this conference for 2021?
- Dr. Harris** Yes, but it's still under consideration whether it will be Zoom or not.
- Mr. Mays** What about the one in Oklahoma? That's July the 20th.
- Mr. Latimer** That looks like it will be an in-person conference. But like I said, all based on what's happening with the pandemic?
- Mr. Latimer** Okay, so that that concludes my communications. Okay, thank you.

## **VII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Mr. Rashid** The next item on the agenda is the President's report. And I really don't have a lot. But last Saturday afternoon, I attended the Black Caucus, American Library Association's online meeting. And at that time, you know, I didn't know at that, at the time that I joined in on the meeting, the prominent part that the East Public Library have played in the formulation of the Black Caucus American Library Association, but obviously, to the credit of East Cleveland, Mr. Reese was very much involved in the formulation of the organization. And they were very happy that there was a member from East Cleveland actually attending and I listened to the meeting. And it was more than anything, it was a meet and greet. And I received that email because I went on their website and signed up. So, I encourage everybody else to do so to just to kind of stay in touch with what's going on with Black libraries across the country. And there were members there literally from across the entire United States. And we're well represented as

people involved with libraries and doing the work that needs to be done to keep our communities informed. And, you know, making sure that we disseminate information accurately and quickly as possible. But the meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, it's actually going to be an in-person meeting. And I encourage every one of us to go that can go, because as you know, that was the Tulsa riots, when that took place there and killed Black Wall Street. There's a lot of information that's going to be available to us, to the people that attend. I don't know what's going to happen in terms of COVID and what's going on in the country, by then. But I think by July 28, or either early in June, we should have some sort of understanding as to whether it's going to be safe to travel and safe to go. I think that in June; and they did mention that if we signed up and for some reason, things didn't work out the way that they had intended so that the meeting could not be held, all money we're going to be refundable. And so, we wouldn't lose anything by signing up in advance. But I know the last time that we attended, it was very well attended. It was packed with people who came to the meeting and it was in Atlanta, Georgia, and it was really, really a wonderful conference to attend. It was very historical. We went to Martin Luther King's church in Atlanta where he had spoken, and there were a lot of activities that centered around Black history. So, I know that the one in Tulsa is going to be extremely exciting. So, I'm attending I'm definitely intending to go. I really didn't have anything else in terms of a report for this month. But I wanted to share that with my fellow board members, because I think it's important that if you can go, we should try to make arrangements to go. And Mr. Turner would be the one that we work with for hotel accommodations, flights, as well as the actual registration to the conference. So that concludes my report. Unless I have some questions or other one other thing I wanted to bring up to at this particular time, is the discussion about the changing of our meetings to Saturdays. And understanding if that in fact works. There's a couple of reasons in terms of staffing that it would be better for us, but it's basically up to the group because we can move it to any day you'd like.

**Mr. Mays** You're speaking in reference to our regular our regular scheduled board meetings?

**Mr. Cockfield** Yes, sir.

**Mr. Mays** Mr. Chairman, we have norms as to what time our meetings are scheduled. And I think Saturday is a time for I mean, people to do their... Some people have a job and on Saturdays, they're off doing some things. I just don't feel that we should keep bouncing the meetings and we need to stick to the schedule that we have. Our normal schedule of meetings, which is the third Monday and...

**Mr. Rashid** ...From what I understand, there's nothing in our bylaws that prevents us from moving the meeting. One of the things I thought about is the additional inconvenience to our staff, when we hold meetings at the end of the day, because they've already been there all day long. And then wherever our meetings go in terms of time, and that sort of thing. ...And there's nothing set in stone that we have to hold those meetings on those dates. The meeting time is flexible to the board. So, you know each of us have a right to input on that. And whatever the group decides, is what our new... Ms. Shaheed, I don't know, she can hear us because I can't see her and

**Mr. Rashid** Good. Okay, good. So, you know that's why I brought this up for discussion.

**Ms. Shaheed** I can hear you.

**Ms. Shaheed** Oh well, you know, what, to me, doesn't matter, because I'm retired. So, we need more input from those who have jobs. But we have changed in the past from Mondays to Thursdays as I remember, because of the time that it got dark outside, as I remember. But so, I know it's flexible, we can change it to anything, there's nothing etched in stone that it has to be Monday or Thursday or Saturday. So, whatever the group decides is okay with me, because I'm retired, you need more input from people probably who have jobs and other things to do.

**Mr. Silvera** I think my perspective, I have no problem with moving to a Saturday, but realize that most people Saturday mornings, early, early Saturday afternoon, people have things that they have to do that they don't get a chance to do during the week. So, if it was a time after, say 3:00 PM, I would be open to that. But sometimes we have been going later in with our Monday meetings, and that does create overtime issues and expenses for the building operations and security. So that is something to be considered to keep up with the changing of the time and how late it gets dark. I would say, we should create a little poll, to see where we're at with that, but I have no problem with a late Saturday afternoon meeting.

**Mr. Rashid** What do you think, Dr. Harris?

**Dr. Harris** Well, I really have to give a lot of thought to it and look at my schedule, because I am previously committed to certain dates on Saturday, and I have not reviewed my calendar for the year.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, how about you Ms. McDonald.

**Ms. McDonald** I would be open for Saturday, it's just that, I know I have a lot of activity also, outside of the library. I would think for myself, maybe sometime between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM, and that might not work, you know, for other people, but I am open to Saturday. I usually don't do other things pertaining to this, but for the community, I think that we will attract more people from the community to be looking at the Zoom meetings that we have, because they're at home more. So that could be an attraction to get more community members involved. So, I'm opening, it just depends on the time.

**Mr. Rashid** Ms. Sharpley. What do you think? Ms. Sharpley? Are you there?

**Mr. Silvera** Her screen is frozen again.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, so I have to try to figure out a way to poll everybody and to accumulate all of the feedback. Because it seems like Saturdays may be okay. Well later in the day.

**Ms. Shaheed** Yeah, that's what it sounds like to me as well.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay.

**Mr. Mays** Mr. Chairman?

**Mr. Rashid** Yes, sir.

**Mr. Mays** Mr. Chair? Now, in reference, to Saturday and our scheduled meeting... The Director can schedule the persons to come in later or one work this meeting, the next one will work the next meeting or what have you. That can be changed. We had set the norms and it's in our bylaws, that the meetings are the 3rd Monday in each month, at 6:30 PM. We moved it from 7:00 PM, we moved it up to 6:30 PM on Mondays. This vacillating kind of bothers me. We need to be steady in what we are going to do, and we did it for that purpose where people who were working, would be off, or whatever. We wouldn't bring it back to five o'clock in the afternoon. But we did it at 6:30 PM at night where people would be off and would be able to participate in the meetings if they wish to come. So now we want to bring it to Saturday. Saturday is a busy day for people. I just hope we kind of come together here to set a time that we could perform our duties and do it well.

**Mr. Rashid** I agree. And another thing I think that Saturday meetings will probably do to us is increase the amount of public and public participation. Because people actually can come and they're not getting off work

and they're not at work on Saturdays, on and on. But anyway, we'll keep working.

**Mr. Rashid** Ms. Sharpley, have you rejoined us because we saw you were frozen early? Oh, she said she can hear. If you could take the floor speaking, Ms. Sharpley, I'll see if we can hear you. Because I just received your text.

**Mr. Rashid** Yeah, we can't hear her input. So, we have until next month's meeting to set a date. So even though we can't really resolve it today in terms of date and time, and I understand your concerns is as you've expressed them Mr. Mays. I think that the group together, we'll come up with a time and date and get it set. Yes, Mr. Director.

**Mr. Latimer** I believe in February, we'll be experiencing the same logistical dates, because the third Monday falls on a holiday, which will move our regular meeting to a Thursday, which will give us the option to move it if you call for us to do that. So again, the third Monday will be a holiday so we can't have our meeting on a regular schedule meeting next month.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, so we will take that into consideration and as quickly as we can. The board should get together and make a decision. Ms. Sharpley, have you rejoined us?

**Mr. Rashid** I want to make sure that we were all participating in this discussion, but we'll move on from that. That kind of concludes my president's report and the next item on the agenda is the Director's Report. Mr. Latimer.

**Mr. Mays** Mr. Chairman

**Mr. Rashid** Yes, sir. Mr. Mays.

**Mr. Mays** I was just saying. Let's move the agenda, please.

## **VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Mr. Latimer** So in response to the East Cleveland School District, going back to in person. And also, in response to the economic relief bill, we understand our patrons will need access to computers, just to access benefits for unemployment, for housing, and some of the other

resources as we trend out of this pandemic. And so, our goal is to, not only meet that need to our patrons, but also to be a safe space after school for the students that have returned to school. So, I want to thank our Deputy Director, Theresa Flood, our Network Administrator, A'sarah Green and our Maintenance Director, Rick Cooper, and myself, we came together to work on a phase two, reopening plan for the patrons for East Cleveland. We need some time to train our staff next week. But we want to respond quickly. We're looking to phase in computer services and after school safe space, starting Monday, February 1st, 2021. And what that will look like all patrons and children that will enter into the library will wear masks, of course. We will be taking temperatures for all patrons that enter into the library. There will be an expectation for all patrons to follow the Code of Conduct guidelines, there will be no access to browsing material, staff will continue to offer services in the lobby format that we're in right now. So, what this plan is going to look like, adults make reservations to use the computers between the hours of 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM. At 2:30 PM we will shut down the computer lab wash down to computers wipe down the computers. Then from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, we will give the children and teens access to those computers. All the computers and the technology staff will cover the computers during this timeframe. They will clean them; they will make sure they're sanitized. The children's staff will monitor the children's room during those times. The adult reference staff and the technology team, the Adult Reference department. So, no computers will be available on Saturdays we will just remain in materials pickup and lobby service. All patrons will have access to one hour for computer use. The computer keyboards will have disposable covers. The computers will be cleaned and sanitized. The seating area we will maximize up to 10 patrons. In the Teen area we will have four computers available. We'll have two tables facing the window, one table facing the south east and another facing the West. And the local history room will make tables available on the main floor. We also will make tables available by the window. We will continue our after-school snack program, it'll be grab and go. No eating at the library, we will maintain that policy. As for the restrooms, we're still waiting for some of the equipment to make it hands free. The patrons will use the theater restrooms across from the Gregory Reese theater, access to the restrooms will be 1 person (unless there's accompanied by a parent), they will be accompanied by security. So, this is our plan starting February 1st. We are not going to put it in writing because we know there's going to be changes and flexibility. We're going to meet and train and work with our staff next week. We just wanted to let the board know how we're moving forward again; we will be offering computer services for adults from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM. And we will be a safe space after school and offering computer services to students from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM. So, are there any questions?

**Dr. Harris** Maryann Harris I have a suggestion, and that is the adult computers. Make it from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, I think that's that 2:30 PM to 3:00 PM is a short time frame for cleaning. You need at least an hour. Thank you.

**Mr. Latimer** We will consider that suggestion.

**Mr. Mays** Mr. Chairman, my question to the director. Mr. Director, where are we in reference to correcting the bathrooms? Have we got the material? Have they been installed and are they operable?

**Mr. Latimer** No. Yes. It's a yes and no. We have received the hardware for the restrooms; however, we're waiting for the contractors for installation. I think we're a week behind on the queue. So, we're waiting in real time any day for them to come in to do the installation around the touchless restrooms for the toilets.

**Mr. Mays** Okay, thank you. Because I couldn't hear your report. You kept cutting in and out. And when you did come back in, you were down the line on various things.

**Mr. Turner** We're working on a solution for that, Mr. Mays.

**Mr. Latimer** Thank you. If there are no other questions, that concludes my Director's Report. I will be responding to all of the board members in real time how this reopening phase plays out. Our highest priority will be on staffing, we will be doing a training next week. And hopefully, safety and health are our highest priority as we move forward. But we know we need to offer additional services for our students and for patrons as the economic relief bill becomes a reality.

**Ms. Shaheed** I have a question. Do they have an estimated number of students in the East Cleveland school system now or because you might not have anybody coming in?

**Mr. Latimer** We received a memo from Merce Robinson, actually today, she told me there are 200 students that are in person at Shaw High School. Then, at some of the elementary schools, I believe they're three of them. The numbers are in between 40 and 50. Let me see if I can pull it up. I don't have the exact number, but I can email the board members. What those numbers look like.

**Ms. Shaheed** Each elementary school only have 40 means the whole building?

**Mr. Latimer** Right? Well, okay, looking at what was returned. The only email that they counted was 200 students returned to Shaw high school.

**Ms. Shaheed** When I was there, it was 3,000.

**Mr. Latimer** I don't have a number for the elementary, but we are preparing to drop off for the kindergartner's classroom sets of books for ages 2,3,4 and 5 as part of our early literacy project. So, we're working on dropping off containers of books to those classes hopefully in next two weeks.

**Ms. Shaheed** I have another question. Are you saying after two o'clock the adults can come in the library? They just can't use the computers.

**Mr. Latimer** Correct. They just can't use the computers. They still will have access to the resources by coming into our lobby services to get their books and materials and copying and printing. After two o'clock they will not have access to computer services.

**Mr. Mays** Why is that?

**Mr. Latimer** We have to separate the children and adults from intermingling in the building. Keep in mind, we are still in Coronavirus is still high alert that which is red. We're doing our due diligence to make sure that everyone remains safe however, we know that we still need to offer additional services.

**Mr. Rashid** I'm still just kind of startled about the fact that only 200 students.

**Mr. Mays** That could be due to the fact that they've been out, and they have not gotten the information that school is open.

**Ms. Shaheed** School really never closed. They just did virtual classes, but school actually never closed.

**Mr. Silvera** Mr. Chair, I move that we accept the Director's Report.

**Dr. Harris** MaryAnn Harris, second.

**Mr. Rashid** Is there any further discussion? Mr. Turner, would you please call the roll?

Mr. Silvera moved and Mr. Mays seconds approval of the Director's report.

Discussion: None

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

Yes – 7

Motion passes.

The Director's report is approved.

**IX. FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT (R. COCKFIELD)**

**Mr. Rashid** Motion to approve the Director's Report has been adopted. The next item on our agenda is the Fiscal Officer's report by Mr. Cockfield.

**Mr. Cockfield** Yes. Let me begin by asking if everyone got the financial statements I emailed about a week and a half ago.

**Mr. Silvera** Yes.

**Mr. Rashid** I did.

**Mr. Mays** No, I just received them.

**Mr. Cockfield** So I'm going to get with Mr. Turner, and see if there's a mechanism whereby I can share screens with everyone, going forward, so that for those who don't get the financials or who have not had a chance to go over them, at the time I give my report, I can simply put them on the screen for everyone to see.

**Mr. Rashid** I think that would be very helpful for all of us. And, even if we do receive them, to at least have your narrative going through them in detail, I think would be good for everybody. For all the board members, as well as anyone in the public who may be watching.

**Mr. Cockfield** Right. This would give anybody the opportunity to come back and ask specific questions based on anything that's on the screen. So, I think that'll just be a good thing for us to do going forward. With that being said, I emailed out all the financials. for the month of December. The bank has been reconciled. I have not posted that reconciliation,

because I'm keeping 2020 open until I finalize everything, review everything and submit the report to the state. But as of December 31st, we had reconciled cash balances of \$1,156,522.13. Our expenditures came in under budget. And our revenues came in over budget. So, to that degree, we're in very good shape going forward into 2021. I also had submitted a Fiscal Officer's Report, I'm going to open it up on the screen. I hope everyone got this; I'm just going to kind of go over it in summary form. What I had attempted to do was to summarize this year's activity and compare it to 2018 and 2019. And I'm just going to say as of December 31st, 2020. I'm reading from the report. The library has total reconciled cash balances of \$1,000,156,522.13. The library has closed the year with cash cushion, with a cash cushion that we have not had in quite some time, which I think is an excellent problem to have. I've also tried to summarize our revenue and expenditures from 2018 to 2020. Giving the board an opportunity to see very specifically what the numbers were and how they compare from this year to the prior two years. In addition to that, I've graphed those revenues for specifically property tax PLF and all others. And in looking at the graphs, you can obviously see that in 2020, we had additional revenues that exceeded, and we had additional all other revenues that exceeded what we had received in 2018 and 2019. Our property tax revenue for 2020 fell short of what it was in 2019 And 2018. And our PLF revenue for 2020 was pretty much what we had received in 2019. And exceeded what we've had received in 2018. as well. At the very bottom of that page, page one I'm speaking of, what I've tried to do is to give the board an idea of what the percentage changes were from the previous two years. So, in 2019, the PLF revenue represented a 4% increase of what it was in 2018. And in 2020, it remained pretty much flat, um, property tax exhibited a 1%, or 10% decrease from what we had received in 2019. And in all other category, there was a 48% increase in 2020, over what it was in 2019. On the expenditure side, I've tried to do the same thing in giving the actual amounts for our public services and programs, collection, development facilities, operation, Information Services, Business Administration, and capital outlay for each of the three years. And I've also done the same thing in terms of a graph.

**Mr. Cockfield**

At the very bottom of that page, you can see that in terms of public services, collection, development, Business Administration and capital outlay, there were significant decreases in expenditures from 2019, which gives evidence to the additional revenues or the additional cash balances that we're carrying forward into 2020. What I do need to possibly point out is that looking at 2020's, expenditure percent change, you'll notice that there was a 27% decrease in collection development in 2020. But there was a corresponding 16% increase in Information Services. I think that points to the fact that the collections are being automated, and patrons are moving more toward automated

services. And we're basically trying to keep up with that trend. So, I don't want to say that we're buying less books, but I think that what we're doing is, is channeling those dollars into information services or into those areas where the public is more apt to receive the information or certainly making it more convenient. The capital outlay column or the capital outlay figure of a 17% decrease simply points to the fact that given the decrease in patron activity, there was very little to spin in the way of furniture and equipment, which is what comprises this particular line item. In going on to page three, one of the things I had promised the board was a summary of our PACE activity. Because obviously there was a question of whether or not the dollars that we'd have obligated ourselves to repay have actually generated any kind of savings for the library. What I've done in the way of summarizing information, I've gone all the way back to 2016. And given actual figures for electricity, gas, and water related costs. So, in 2016, in reading from the report, you can see that we spent \$72,641 in electricity. And corresponding we spent \$13,919 in gas and then there were \$16,000 in \$16,560 in boiler related costs. Just kind of going down the column for the electricity, you can see that those dollars are decreasing from \$72,000 to \$67,000 to \$57,000 to \$53,000 and then in 2020 it drops to 35,000. Needless to say, the question would be asked as to why those why the numbers were dropping over the past five years. I want to give kudos to Mr. Cooper and his team, because back in 2016, he made the commitment to begin switching out all of our lights to LEDs. So, over these past five years, irrespective of whether or not we had engaged in the PACE project, Mr. Cooper had methodically been switching out the lights, certainly around the exterior of the building and everything that he could do, they did over the past four years. And then in 2020, we engage the services of gray bar. And they switched out all of the lights in the main reading room, which is why there was such a significant decrease in electrical costs going from 2019 to 2020. So that basically summarizes the electricity, gas, and the boiler related costs. What I then tried to do was to calculate some type of way where we could at least see whether or not the PACE project generated any real savings for us. So, at the bottom of that page, the bottom of page three, what I tried to do was to calculate some type of a payback on investment, without getting too deep into the weeds. Basically, what I did was average the electrical costs over the first four years from 2016 to 2019. That average being \$62,878, then I subtracted the electrical costs in 2020, of \$35,343. To identify an annual savings of \$27,535. If I take that number, and simply multiply it by 10, which is the number of years that were obligated to repay the money, you can see that the number totals \$275,350. The PACE program represented an obligation of 250,000. So, I believe that at a minimum, there is a significant payback of our savings to the to the PACE project. There are obviously some other savings that we will realize, certainly, in

looking at going further up to the top of the page to the boiler related costs, we can see that from 2016 to 2020, our costs have dropped down to nothing. Now, this doesn't mean that there won't be any further costs, because obviously there are going to be maintenance costs or maintenance, warranties, I guess that we're going to be engaged in going forward. But one of the things that will certainly happen is that our boiler cost will be controlled going forward. I'm going to page 4, I'm just kind of summarizing. I have a new internal control policy that is being prepared to reflect some of the recommended procedures from the Auditor of state. And a draft will be presented to the finance committee in February. And then lastly, the administration will be providing the schedule of projects and estimated costs to be applied to this year's budget. We anticipate using a portion of our carryover to finance the projects by using this year's revenue to maintain operations. That concludes my report. Are there any questions?

**Mr. Rashid**

Mr. Cockfield, from your fiscal responsibility standpoint, we made a good decision with going with the PACE program from your estimation?

**Mr. Cockfield**

Yes, we did. Yes, we did. It has paid off. I think that the greatest payoff has been certainly in the in the savings of electricity. And I know Mr. Mays is always bringing up the issue of the fact that we're not fully open to the public, which is a legitimate argument, but I certainly believe that given where we are, and the kind of savings that we are realizing, I do feel that it has been a worthwhile project and a worthwhile savings project for us.

**Mr. Mays**

Mr. Cockfield in reference to that, I'm fully cognizant of what you're saying, but have we factored in the fact that we have not been open for a while? And secondly, that the library still is not totally operating fully at this time as well. So, wouldn't that have some bearing as to whether we saved anything or not?

**Mr. Cockfield**

I think the absolute numbers are what they are, Mr. Mays. And I fully respect what you're saying, we probably won't get a true picture of the of the dollar savings until maybe 2022, or possibly 2023, when we become fully operational. So, I'd have to say that we're going to take it as it's been given. But I certainly respect what you're asking. And I think that going forward, or when we do become fully operational, I think that there will obviously be an increase in electrical usage. But what that number will be in relation to what we have been spending? I have no idea. I don't know.

**Mr. Rashid**

Mr. Mays, I also think too, that due to the fact that the lighting and a lot of the lighting is still in use, even especially during the evenings,

nothing has changed there, it would be a slight variance as to when the actual building is operational, again, and few computers are being used in those sorts of things. But I think their percentages from a percentage perspective, I don't think it'd be that drastic of an increase that would throw us off of a pace that's acceptable and well within the budget that we had anticipated and what we've seen from other years, just because of the efficiency of the new lighting system. But another question that I had is, did we exhaust all of the funds that we actually borrowed from the PACE program? And have we been making our payments? I mean, I know that we are because their scheduled, and I think we're in the first year of that payment schedule?

**Mr. Cockfield** No, actually, when the second year? We have not exhausted all of the money, and we have about \$5,000 left to spend.

**Mr. Rashid** Do we have a place to allocate that money where it will continue to, you know, move towards efficiency.

**Mr. Cockfield** Actually, one of the projects that's being proposed is the window replacement. So, in replacing the windows, that \$5,000 could easily be applied to those costs.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, because I know that we had involved ourselves with a program with one of the major manufacturers at one point, and it kind of fell apart once COVID hit. But let me ask you another question, though. I know that some additional upgrades or some maintenance type work that we need to do, relating to the HVAC system, could that money be technically..., and would it be legal to use that money? T

**Mr. Cockfield** Yes, we can use it there as well.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, good. Okay.

**Mr. Mays** And, excuse me, this is O. Mays. What is the time factor? What how many years?

**Mr. Cockfield** 10 years, Mr. Mays.

**Mr. Mays** So will we pay it back before 10 years? Will we get into saving f from that perspective or not?

**Mr. Cockfield** No, that's a good question. No, the true savings won't be realized until after that 10-year period. Basically, what this is saying is that we're covering our costs for 10 years. So, everything we're saving is basically going back to cover what we're paying out in the way of repayment of the investment. So, after a 10-year period, the true

savings will actually be realized. Because obviously, the 10-year investment will be paid off. And this dollar savings that will be realized, will actually be going straight to the bottom line, so to speak.

**Mr. Rashid**

And that I mean, that's a great formula, because you look at the interest rate that we're paying and the terms that we have and the work that we actually did to improve our building and the operation of our building. I mean, that's priceless. I mean, look, we would have taken out of our budget, even though we had money allocated for building upgrades before we went into PACE, because we went into PACE, we did not have to use those funds directly out of our budget, we use those funds with a lower interest rate in a much better financial position. So, I think that overall, this is just working out to be a win win and all we have to do, and especially even though COVID has really been a disaster nationwide, there are some bright lights, or I should say some good points in it and the fact that it's been able to bring us some extra money into the system, is cut down on operation costs. And by the time we get back to some sense of normalcy, we'll be far ahead of the game than we were before.

**Mr. Cockfield**

Exactly.

**Ms. Shaheed**

This is Carol Shaheed. Plus, it shows to me, if you get the patch work money that was constantly used just patching things up, rather than just getting a new boiler.

**Mr. Rashid**

Exactly. And the life of that boiler will take us over well past the 10 years. It'll take us to pay it back. And I don't think if there is an advantage to making earlier payments, we can explore that in detail when the time comes around, but I think it's just best to just ride it out and just go through the process.

**Mr. Cockfield**

Yeah, I mean, that's certainly an option. That's certainly an option.

**Mr. Silvera**

Okay, Mr. Chairman, I move that we accept the Fiscal Officer's report.

**Mr. Rashid**

Right. Do I hear a second?

**Dr. Harris**

I second.

**Mr. Rashid**

Is there any further discussion? Mr. Turner, please call the roll.

Discussion: None

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

Yes – 7

Motion passes.

Mr. Silvera moved and Mr. Mays seconds approval of the Fiscal Officer's report.

The Fiscal Officer's report is approved.

**X. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**Mr. Rashid** The motion to accept the Fiscal Officer's report is passed. The next item on our agenda is the committee updates. And I'd like to start that part off just by discussing the finance heads and members from our previous year and if there are no objections, I would like to see the same people remain in the positions for 2021. And they are as follows: The Finance Committee, we have Gerald Silvera for Chairman, Cassandra McDonald was also a member of that committee. Is that okay with the two of you?

**Mr. Silvera** Yes.

**Ms. McDonald** Yes.

**Mr. Rashid** Thank you. Personnel Committee. Carol Shaheed is the chair, Sheila Sharpley she's a member. Is that okay with the two of you?

**Ms. Shaheed** Yes.

**Ms. Sharpley** Yes.

**Mr. Rashid** Onward, we go. Buildings and Grounds. Mr. O. Mays, he is the Chairman and I'm a member of that committee along with Mr. Mays, and it's okay with me. How about you, sir?

**Mr. Mays** It's fine with me.

**Mr. Rashid** Thank you. Library Services. Dr. MaryAnn Harris is the chair. Sheila Sharpley, you're also on that committee. Is that okay with you?

**Dr. Harris** Yes.

**Ms. Sharpley** Yes.

**Mr. Silvera** Next on the list is the Strategic Planning Committee. That's also Dr. MaryAnn Harris is Chair along with Gerald Silvera, and Cassandra McDonald is a member. Is that all right with everybody?

**Mr. Silvera** Yes.

**Dr. Harris** Yes.

**Ms. McDonald** Yes.

**Mr. Rashid** Great. Okay, the Adhoc committee. We have Gerald Silvera as the Chair, Sheila Sharpley, Cassandra McDonald, Mr. Latimer, and Mr. Cockfield are all part of that Adhoc committee. If that's affirmative we'll continue with the list that we currently have. Is that okay?

**Group** (Everyone agrees)

**Mr. Rashid** On the Nominating committee, we have Carol Shaheed, MaryAnn Harris, and Gerald Silvera.

**Mr. Turner** Well, that's going to change in November.

**Mr. Silvera** Yeah.

**Mr. Latimer** Just in case we have changes in the middle of the year, that committee will remain.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay.

**Group** (Everyone agrees)

**Mr. Rashid** So I don't know if we had committee meetings. But we'll start out with the Finance committee report chairperson Mr. Gerald Silvera.

**A. Finance Committee Report (Chairperson)**

**Mr. Silvera** Yes, we have not had a meeting yet. So, we'll probably start in February and then we'll kind of get up to speed where we need to be for the first quarter of this year.

**Mr. Rashid** Alright, Personnel Committee update.

**B. Personnel Committee Report (Chairperson)**

**Ms. Shaheed** There was no meeting for Personnel this month.

**Mr. Rashid** Alright, buildings and grounds committee.

**C. Buildings and Grounds Committee Update (Chairperson)**

**Mr. Mays** There was no meeting, but I do have some questions I do need to ask, in reference to Buildings and Grounds. I think I spoke in reference to the committee earlier in the minutes in reference to the property that we are seeking. And they said they had not met in reference to that. So, I hope that we will meet on that very soon. And get back with us in reference to that situation. The other thing is I would like to have a full update as to where we are with the bathrooms, getting those corrected and retrofit it to the time in which we are faced with and secondly, the windows I hope, would be a part of some grant I understand that that we have received that it would be towards those things correcting the windows which has not been corrected in the PACE program or whatever as well as the marquee that we spoke of which would keep the public informed as to what activities are going on here at the Library. And I would like to hear from the Director, Mr. Latimer, or either Mr. Cooper, if he's present, to give an update as to the bathrooms in particularly, as well as whomever wishes to give the report in reference to the marquee and the windows.

**Mr. Latimer** We'll have a full report for you, hopefully, the completion of the restrooms. By the time you set your agenda for the next Buildings and Grounds meeting, again, yes, we have some of the hardware technology, we're waiting for the contractors to get on their schedule for installation. We're waiting in real time any day now. So hopefully, we'll have a full report around the restrooms. The marquee is part of the strategic initiatives that we're moving forward. Our team, we're

working to identify the highest priority projects, which we will bring to Mr. Cockfield with quotes and numbers, which is the first step we will share with the board what those priority projects are for your support. So, we can get final numbers, then we'll start moving through the process of getting those big projects completed between 2021 and 2023. So, we have identified the highest priority projects. Yes, the marquee the windows. And some other projects are a part of that initiative.

**Mr. Mays**

Just to add another one Mr. Latimer. I read somewhere I don't know whether it was in a resolution or whether it was in some information I received in reference to mold... I do not recall as to what particular area it's in and I think that needs to be addressed. ASAP.

**Mr. Latimer**

Right. Mr. O. Mays, that's the area where our passport program, our reference collection and nonfiction books are. That's one of the spaces that we will be repurposing for some of our new initiatives, that particular space will be our copy printing, pretty much makerspace and meeting space. So, we'll have a full plan for you in regard to what that will look like, what our plans are. However, there is some behind the scenes maintenance that will be required for us to move forward to get those projects going. So, we'll have a full outline of where we need to go at the February meeting.

**Mr. Mays**

Thank you. I'm sorry. Mr. Chairman, do you have any concerns or questions in reference to buildings and grounds?

**Mr. Rashid**

No, I was Thinking about the marquee. And I'm remember that the director had informed us that they were going to put together the information regarding the bids and having some design people come in for us to take a look at that, because that's important to me. But one of the items that I wanted to make sure that we had on our radar, at least, is the equipment to do our own live streaming from the library, to include the various activities that we conduct there at the library, our meetings when we want to stream them, as well as any other information that would be useful to the community in the city of East Cleveland, and having a channel even to run a community bulletin board for that channel, where people could come to the library's channel, and see activities and encourage the community to list their activities on our community bulletin board. So, if once we get our channel up and running, and the director and I are trying to set up a meeting for some time next week, to go talk with a company that actually provides those services and can assist us through that process. But at least we at that time will have some way of evaluating the cost of running it and operating it, because it does not require that we have someone there 24 hours to run the channel. Once the equipment is set up properly, a person could go to our channel, tune

in at any time and whatever activities are running, they constantly just run. But I think the community bulletin board is going to be a very effective and essential part of our growth as we move forward during the year of 2021. And, you know, I really want us to be active in participating in this upcoming election, from whatever legal position the library can have in terms of keeping people informed, and helping voters know what their responsibilities are, trying to encourage new voters. Because we do have an election in the city of East Cleveland and the library should play an important part in informing voters. We can't tell anybody who to vote for. But I think that it is imperative that we get involved as an institution of higher learning, and for providing information to people to encourage them to come out and vote because a large part of what has happened in our community is because of lack of voter participation in a city of over 16,000 people in the last mayoral election, less than 3000 people voted. And the election was decided I think the mayor won like 200 or 300 votes.

**Mr. Latimer** Yes, we are discussing improvements around our technology. We understand where the board stands in upgrading. We do want the community and also our board members to know that East Cleveland Public Library is a nonpartisan organization. We are all about providing information education to our community.

**Mr. Rashid** Well said Mr. Director,

**Mr. Mays** If there's no further discussion or concerns at his buildings and grounds.

**Mr. Rashid** Thank you, sir. The next item on our agenda is the Library Services Committee update.

**D. Library Services Committee Update (Chairperson)**

**Dr. Harris** Basically, the Library Services Committee is yet to me. And we will have a full report at the next meeting. However, the director can give you additional information on both services and purchases. Thank you.

**Mr. Rashid** Thank you. Next item on our agenda would be the Strategic Planning Committee.

**E. Strategic Planning Committee Update (Chairperson)**

**Dr. Harris** Strategic Planning is in the process of setting up quarterly meetings. Thank you.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, and the next and last item on this agenda is the Adhoc committee update. And even if there's really nothing that has happened recently, I just want to kind of stay abreast of what you got,

**F. Ad Hoc Committee Update (Chairperson)**

**Mr. Silvera** What we're going to do is, I'm going to try to come by the library this coming week, sit down with the director, and make sure that all the information that has been collected, everyone has and will have a copy of everything, including the videos from the community development meetings that were held on the subject matter and then from once we know everybody has all the information that has been collected, then we'll set a meeting date to sit down and kind of go through everything to make sure and discuss a plan of action going forward.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, I'm looking forward to that and that includes the approach to dealing with The property in the back of the library.

**Mr. Silvera** Right, and going and presenting a formal package to city council and asking for their vote.

**Mr. Rashid** That's wonderful the members of that committee, are yourself as chairman, Sheila Sharpley, Cassandra McDonald, Carlos Latimer, and Ross Cockfield. I really think we have a dynamic team to put forth our position and I'm looking forward to a positive conclusion of this matter. Because I think it's just kind of hanging out there too long. So, I'll just await a report from you guys work and good luck to you. We're really counting on you guys.

**Mr. Silvera** Thank you. Thank you.

**Mr. Rashid** The next item on the agenda is new business.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution 01-01-2021: To Accept \$10,000 Grant from the Cleveland Foundation Donor.**

- Mr. Silvera** Mr. Chairman?
- Mr. Rashid** Yes, sir.
- Mr. Silvera** I think there was a typographical error in resolution 01-01-2021 was not included in the printout that was sent out to everybody. So, I'm going to ask for an amendment to the agenda to include the resolution 01-01-2021, which is a resolution regarding a donor grant to the library.
- Mr. Rashid** Okay, there's been a motion Made. Do I get a second?
- Dr. Harris** Maryann Harris. Second.
- Mr. Rashid** Further discussion on it. I actually have a copy of it...
- Mr. Silvera** ...Yeah, we have it in the board packet, but it wasn't included on the written agenda.
- Mr. Rashid** Yes. I see. Would you like to read that? Who's that? It's for me. So, do you want me to read it?
- Mr. Silvera** I can go ahead and read it. The members of the East Cleveland Public Library's Board of trustees have discussed and reviewed the following items resolution, 01-01-2021 resolution to accept \$10,000 grant from the Cleveland Foundation donor. Whereas we have received notification from the Cleveland Foundation that they are processing a \$10,000 grant from one of their donors advised funds and whereas a family wishes to remain anonymous. And whereas the grant is designed to be used for whichever the board deems of highest priority, now therefore be resolved that the East Cleveland Public Library Board of Trustees accept the grant and receive said funds to account 1000-651-000 unrestricted contributions individuals. And I move for its adoption.
- Dr. Harris** MaryAnn Harris, second,
- Mr. Rashid** It's been moved in second. Any discussion
- Mr. Latimer** I would like to share that this donor requested to remain anonymous. It did come from the Cleveland Foundation attached with this

resolution, because it's not part of the norm. With this money being restricted the communications with myself and the program manager, owner relations Technology Officer for full transparency. And you'll see in those comments, Carlos, thanks again for turning around the information so quickly, I just want to let you know we are processing the \$10,000 grant, from one of our donors; however, the family wishes to remain anonymous. While I share a list of your priority programs or projects, the grant is for whichever your board deems the highest priority. Part of what I communicated to the family was our new strategic initiatives. And I listed some projects to them in real time. The carpet, the conference room, the furniture, smart tables, the digital display/ marquee, the studio project, which includes kind of what our board president suggested, and our print services huddle spaces. These are some of the projects that I, although we have many that I submitted, we had a very short time window to submit to that donor and within minutes, we were given approval for these funds. So now it's up to the board to determine where they would like these funds to be appropriated.

**Mr. Mays**

I recommend first to the to the board as well as to the administration. I would say number two, the conference room. This room is in use as a meeting room; however, the walls are tearing apart and mold is starting to grow. That takes precedent over anything else because it affects the lives of people and their health. So, I recommend, number one, taking care of that project. Because if we do not take care of that, we're exposing not only the employees, the public to hazardous conditions, and we are already faced with one and we certainly don't need anymore. And number two, the marquee, because it does share information, what's going on behind these walls and doors here at the Library, and so it plays a pivotal role. So those are my two and some of the others. I have question marks. Or, if I had for number three would be the studio, I think would be my third choice. I think it plays a critical role as well and help the community.

**Mr. Rashid**

Yes, I see. Miss McDonald has her hand raised.

**Ms. McDonald**

Yes, I just wanted to make sure that I point this out from a legal perspective in terms of the mold at East Cleveland library to assure the community and people who may be watching that we are not putting the public in immediate harm's way that we have ensured that these things are not posing a health risk at this time. However, we are concerned about that. And we are doing our due diligence in ensuring that those repairs, as Mr. Mays has stated, will be taken care of. Again, to ensure public safety.

**Mr. Rashid**

Thank you very much for that comment. I just want to interject quickly, that the first thing I want to do is say thank you to the anonymous

family who thought enough about our library and entrusted us with their funds. \$10,000 is a lot of money, however you look at it and the people who looked upon us as being a place that they wanted to help us and to invest in us. We want to say thank you to them, and also want to say thank you to all of us and our team. Because without the work that we do, I don't think that we would have been acknowledged and given someone's hard earned money in that way. And they wanted to become anonymous, because even though we don't know who they are, they know who we are. And I want to say thank you to that. Mr. Director, you had your hand up?

**Mr. Latimer**

Yeah. The first comment I wanted to make for Mr. Mays, there's some funds that we have in our general fund from another grant that because of COVID, we could not have a community festival, we have a request and to the Cleveland foundation for repurpose of those funds. And part of that request is to do some type of upgrades to that meeting room space. So, we're waiting for approval there, which we have not heard anything yet. Also, in regard to these funds, there is a report that I have to send to the Cleveland Foundation it's the designated Donor Advised fund. It doesn't have a date, I will I believe before the end of the year, but I would like to have things timely within the next, maybe, six months or so we have to report out what we did with these expenditures. So, the sooner the board can designate where they want the funds to go for whatever particular project, I need that information to report back to the Cleveland Foundation in a timely matter.

**Mr. Rashid**

And I also want to say at this time, thank you to Mr. McDonald for the clarification of the risk to the public. I think that, that needed to be said and appreciate the fact that you that you can make that statement, because I definitely understand Mr. Mays concerns. But I also appreciate your assurance to the public, that we are not putting anyone in jeopardy. So, the resolution motion has been brought to adopt the resolution. We did get a second, was that Dr. Harris that seconded it?

**Dr. Harris**

Yes.

**Mr. Rashid**

Is there any further discussion?

**Mr. Silvera**

I would just make a comment that we will make sure that that will be one of the topics that the Finance Committee discusses in our meeting next month and that any other board members that have any ideas or recommendation to please pass that information on to Mr. Cockfield, Mr. Latimer, and myself, and we will have that conversation at the Finance Committee meeting next month.

**Mr. Rashid** Okay, thank you. hearing no further discussion. Mr. Turner, would you please call the roll?

Discussion: None

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

Yes – 7

Motion passes.

Ms. Shaheed moved and Mr. Mays seconds approval of Resolution 01-01-2021.

Resolution 01-01-2021 is approved.

**B. Resolution 01-02-2021: Approval of Date and Time Change for Regular Board Meetings.**

**Mr. Rashid** The motion passed to accept resolution 01-01-2021 to accept the \$10,000 grant has passed the next item on the agenda old business. I hear no old business.

**Mr. Silvera** They have another resolution about the change of time.

**Mr. Rashid** Oh, I would like to make a motion to table that.

**Mr. Silvera** Okay. All right.

**Dr. Harris** MaryAnn Harris, move to table the resolution. Resolution Number 01-02-2021: Approval of date and time change for regular board meeting.

**Mr. Rashid** The motion is made, can I hear a second?

**Mr. Silvera** I second.

**Mr. Rashid** Any further discussion? Mr. Turner, would you please call the roll?

Discussion: None

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

Yes – 7

Motion tabled.

Ms. Shaheed moved and Mr. Mays seconds tabling Resolution 01-02-2021.

Resolution 01-02-2021 is tabled.

**XII. OLD BUSINESS**

- Mr. Rashid** So, we've tabled resolution 01-02-2021 for date and time change for regular board scheduled meetings. The next item on the agenda is old business. So, I guess we don't have any old business. Is there any new business?
- Mr. Mays** Yes, Mr. Chairman, the new business I like from this point forward, hopefully, all resolutions. Whenever passed should have a date and time that it was signed, as well as the date and time it was passed.
- Mr. Rashid** Okay, you have a copy of it in front of you.
- Mr. Mays** I have a copy in front of me.
- Mr. Rashid** Okay, I see it as well. And I think we need to add that line on there for sure for the date... There should be a date on this document.
- Mr. Mays** And also, as a sponsor who sponsored the resolution as well.
- Mr. Rashid** Yeah, that is on there. So, the next item on the agenda today is audience participation.

### **XIII. AUDIENCE PARTICPATION**

**Mr. Latimer** Yes, in response to a board member Cassandra McDonald's requests at the last meeting, we invited health promotion consultant in East Cleveland, community advocate, Jacqueline Adams. So, she's going to talk about the COVID vaccine. And hopefully, if she's available, we would like to bring her to talk about the vaccine to our staff. So welcome Ms. Adams and you're on the clock.

**Ms. Adams** All right. Well, thank you. Good afternoon, everyone, to Mr. Latimer, for reaching out to me as well as to the board for welcoming me this afternoon. So once again, my name is Jacqueline Adams actually worked for Anthem, insurance BlueCross BlueShield. I'm a health promotion consultant with them, which translates into; I concentrate on the clinical gaps that our members that we ensure that they are covered. So that could be from a colorectal to breast cancer, mammograms, BMI, blood pressure, and things of that sort. And so of course, there's been a lot of talk last year was very traumatic for a lot of people on many levels, whether it was from just medically or from mental health, to just economically. So, what I did was I provided Mr. Latimer, a document that actually was provided to me from my primary care doctor, which is Dr. Frederick Harris. He is a Black physician with Cleveland Clinic he was in practice for many years, but then join with Cleveland Clinic, he's up at the Severance Medical Center, but I want to point out that he is actually the health chair for the NAACP, as well as he is the co-chair for the Ohio NAACP. And so, he provided me with this document and one of my visits just to provide more clarification about COVID. And so, I did give Mr. Latimer a copy of that. And hopefully, he can share that document with you all. It's a little in depth, but I think it gives a very clear explanation and kind of the foundation of COVID. So first, let me just start with, we talk about COVID. I don't know if you've heard of the term SARS, and COVID. SARS, which is what COVID is, is an acute respiratory syndrome. And so, when you hear, which I'm sure many of you have been paying a lot of attention, we've had really no choice. You hear about the ventilators and a lot of the respiratory issues. And so, in the document in particular that I want to concentrate on, are how this impacts us. And so, one of the things that this document references that Dr. Harris mentions is that 80% of the Corona virus cases are mild and do not require hospitalization. However, even in the mild cases, there is significant adverse results to COVID. And so, I think that when you think about and when you hear about a lot of people who have been impacted by this, these are things that are very important that should be on your radar. So, some of those cases are

on persistent respiratory difficulties, such as coughing... Okay, and then also associated with it is fatigue, you hear a lot of people say that GI issues such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, also rashes, and then it can even impact your neurological dysfunction, and cause memory impairment and insomnia. Now, those are some very serious types of, if you will, cases but if you listen to or if you've had someone or if you know someone who's impacted with COVID, these are very common. And once again, this was stated that, 80% of COVID cases are considered now or asymptomatic, as you may hear. So, one of the things that the CDC wanted to acknowledge is that patients do not recover quickly from this. Instead, they experienced ongoing symptoms, such as fatigue, and the cough. Many of a third of the patients are never sick enough to be hospitalized. And so, they do not return to their normal health. It takes maybe up to three weeks after their diagnosis. And the results can be prolonged in many of the people with outpatient illnesses. So, I'm going to give you all an example. Prior to this, me joining you all, we had a sorority event, I'm an A.K.A. and we had our Founder's Day. And so, one of our sorority sisters talked about she contracted the virus in February.

**Ms. Adams**

She's young, and she had the coughing, she had the breathing. She said that she really didn't think that it was serious. But then as she started experiencing more symptoms, it raised flags for her. Okay, so she went and got treated. She started feeling better, by April. To this day, this is almost a year, next month, she is still experiencing the coughing, the runny nose, and other symptoms. And so, I'm sure that many of you have seen Facebook pages and other social media or, you know, talk to individuals that have had prolonged results from COVID. Okay. So, this is not, you know, something that cannot be taken seriously. And then also one of the things that I also wanted to mention is how Trump approach this, and thank goodness that administration has moved on, but the way that he approached this whole COVID was referred to as a herd immunity. Okay. And what is that exactly? That occurs when enough people become immune to a disease to make its spread unlikely. The herd immunity is achieved by vaccination or mass infection. It is suggested that the Trump administration had adopted a herd immunity strategy to just let it rip, which is what it did in America. And then to provide no mitigation or strategy by how we were going to affect or, how we could try and herd in on this particular virus. Okay. So, you all saw that unfold. One of the things why I liked so much what Dr. Harris wrote was how it impacted the Black community. Because, of course, everyone thought about the Tuskegee experiment, the syphilis when you think about something like this, this pandemic, having graduated from Tuskegee, that was my walk, that was my life. And having seen it firsthand. So, you know, a lot of what happens and in our community and how it impacts us. So, this is what I want you all to really listen to this. During

the pandemic, Blacks have a rate of infection, that is approximately five times that of whites. Five times, Blacks compose 13% of the population, but have a COVID fatality of 24%. In as a matter of fact, the 218 deaths, and now that's higher, over 22,000 deaths are results of black people. So, in other words, the number 100,000 deaths, we should proportionately expect 13,000 deaths since Blacks represent 13% of the pie.

**Ms. Adams**

Okay, so how does this translate as far as how it further impacts us from a health and social economic inequities. And so, this is where my passion comes in, in trying to combat that in our communities. And so, this pandemic shed light on the long-standing health and racial disparities, we all hear about and talk about, you know, people who have been impacted, White America catches a cold, Black America gets pneumonia. Okay, these health inequities are long standing, and the systemic racism factors that are basis for many of these disparities. And one of the things that (Senator) DeWine did when he put together a coalition of health professionals, systemic racism was a major flag that if any of you all have been a part of any type of Zoom, or any type of conversation, this has been going on generationally for years, okay? And I don't know why I took the pandemic to bring greater light to it. But unfortunately, it's nothing new to us. Okay. So, Blacks are more likely to experience social economic inequities, such as exclusion from health, education, social and economic resources. And these inequities can lead to worse physical and mental health outcomes for Black patients. minorities have a higher rate of medical conditions that make them vulnerable to severe affections and death. If they catch the virus, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, or cancer, obesity. These things severely impact us. And if you smoke, COPD, asthma, kidney disease, all of these things impact this virus, so once again, as I stated, it's an auto immune respiratory syndrome. So, it attacks the weakest part in our bodies. And so, what happens is, is that by most of our people, many of our people may not have the insurance or the medical care. It impacts us in our ability to work. And then if we can't work, which you see in the economically, you know, they don't want the healthcare. So, prior to me coming on board with Anthem, I was with Cleveland Clinic for 11 years, and I was just across the street. And so, my whole population, the whole my whole life, my whole passion has been dealing with the underserved. And even before the health expansion of Medicaid, you know, many people of our color, did not want to get looked at, you know, financially they didn't want to bill they don't open their bills. So, they only want a bill. They didn't want to have to incur anything. So, they would just go, you know, without any help. And so, the ER when Huron hospital was open was like the doctor for them, they will come to the ER for everything. And so, which was sad. And so, when we opened up the center, we tried to address many of those, and then thank god the

Medicaid expansion came along. And that allowed us to get to allow the people to get the care that they needed and the assurance, much of what happens with the COVID is also trust, you know. So, we're going to move along to talk a little bit about those vaccinations with the Pfizer and the Moderna. And now the newest one that's on the line is the Johnson & Johnson, which is the one shot. So, one of the things that I would say, and we are saying is that we should get the vaccination when it is available. There are a lot of red flags with our people with taking these shots, because there's been so much back and forth on if we can, but really, our society will not get to any type of normalcy if we do not have this particular vaccination. If you talk to a lot of older people, they even talk about the polio, my mother had to take that it was dropped on the sugar cube. And Mr. Ross might remember that.

**Ms. Adams**

That's how they administered the polio. So as scary as this is for us to receive this vaccination, it is better for us to have it than us not to have it. Okay. And the other thing that I would like to say is that I just want to go over again, as far as the exposure to it, and what are some of the symptoms, the fever, the cough, the shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking, which yields muscle pain, whole body aches, headaches, sore throat, new loss of taste, or smell, vomiting, and diarrhea. And I don't know if any of you have had the flu shot. But you know, oftentimes, when you get the flu shot, you do sometimes get sick behind it, it seems like the flu, I see Miss Sheila shaking her head, like she's never had that before. But that's been the consistence when people get the flu shot. Fortunately, we all do not want to get this COVID. And so, if you can prevent being exposed to anyone, make sure you wear your mask, stay six feet in distance. And then most importantly, wash your hands. I tell people all the time, you know, I think so much of this is about cleanliness. And it's interesting to me. Because when I was over at the clinic for those years, and I worked right, when you come in the door, I was right there in that center. I used to clean that center all the time. And I would go through Clorox wipes like it was nobody's business. The reason why is because when you have so many people coming in, in and out of any environment, and people have germs, even if they don't know they have germs, you know, they have germs, and so you have to constantly clean and so the fact that they need to tell you to wash your hands 20 seconds, or however long it is most of this should have been embedded in us as kids. You know, when you grow up, you are taught certain things to be clean. And so, what I was suggest to anyone here that's listening today is to just make sure your environment is constantly clean from your offices to your cars. And I still wear gloves when I go in the store. I double up my mask, and I'm very cognizant of where I go. The other thing that I like to say to, is that as much as it's hurtful that we can't be what our loved ones right

now. It is the best because the thing about this COVID is that it does not have any indicators. If you have it or not, you know, you don't really know some people like I say are asymptomatic and maybe walking around and may have it and don't know they have it because they're not getting tested. Now there's a lot of places that are testing. The county of course does it, NEON does it, a lot of the drugstores they do it. So, you can always go to the county website and find out when they will be having testing, if you feel that you need that they are coming out with a new test that is a home test, if you've not heard, because they're going to start letting the kids come back. And so, this home test is supposed to be where you will be able to do the swap yourself, and then be able to get the results. And they said, they've improved on the outcomes of this particular home test. So that's something that I think will bring a lot of people a little bit more peace. Because, you know, I think if you saw early on, when they would do those COVID tests, and they were like, shove that thing up your nose. And it looked not the best, it was kind of painful. And some people said it was not a good feeling. So, I think if you're able to do it at home, in the comfort of your home, it might be a lot better for you. But I would just say that if you have any questions about COVID, I suggest that you go to the CDC website, and you read.

**Ms. Adams**

what's going on, as far as that's concerned, the document that I gave Mr. Latimer is a wonderful document on behalf of the NAACP, and my doctor who is very proactive with what's going on. And then I would just also continuously educate yourself with Senator DeWine and what he has going on. He's allowed testing for individuals 80 and older, for, and of course, the essential workers in the hospital, and in the nursing homes. But there may be some other wiggle room. Hopefully, we'll be getting more vaccinations. I'm looking at the Johnson & Johnson where it's just one shot because that Pfizer shot is a two shot and so is the Moderna. And because they don't have enough of it right now, which hopefully that will be happening soon we'll have enough vaccinations. That won't be a problem. But people are kind of filling half and half on if they're going to get the shot or not. But at the end of the day, I would say you need to have a shot.

**Mr. Rashid**

That's a question for you.

**Ms. Adams**

Yes.

**Mr. Rashid**

In fact, I have two questions. One being that with people getting these vaccinations, the Is there any threat to people who decided not to get back vaccinated? If you're around somebody that actually took the shot? Does that expose you to the possibility of getting COVID? And the second question was, do you have or is there information

available on the mortality rates of people who have actually taken these vaccines?

**Ms. Adams** That's a good question. I can tell you all that there's an app that I use called the citizen app, and it gives me daily updates on the actual doses. Okay, so presently, there has been in Ohio, over a million doses distributed of the vaccination. It doesn't say which type if it's Pfizer, or Moderna, and then it says, people initiating the vaccination, it's been over 545,000. Okay. And they said doses used, it's been 45%. Now, once you get this shot, I cannot tell you whether that puts the other person at a less of a risk. What I will say is that until everyone in your home is vaccinated. That's when I would think that you would have less risks. That will be my suggestion.

**Mr. Rashid** I guess what I'm saying is once a person gets that shot, do they actually have the virus in their system, that is they could pass to somebody else because of the shot?

**Ms. Adams** Well, the shot from my understanding is, and they talked about that this morning, as a matter of fact, they said that it does not cause the disease, it does not do that it does not cause the disease. So, if the disease is already in you, and you get the shot, it does not do that it the shot is a synthetic version. So, whatever the serum is in the Pfizer and the Moderna, it's just helping since you already have introduced antibodies within your system to fight it. And it's just helping to combat and work with those antibodies so that you won't get the COVID.

**Mr. Rashid** The way I'm understanding this is that so when you get it, you're not actually being given the virus you'll be given something to stimulate your antibodies to heal.

**Ms. Adams** That's exactly right. That's exactly right.

**Mr. Rashid** And the mortality rate of people who've had negative or fatal reactions to this virus do are those numbers available.

**Ms. Adams** I have not seen any numbers on that yet. We've just seen stories. And what I have heard is, is that more of the elderly have been the ones that faced the mortality. I've not seen too many, I did see a doctor who passed from it, which was unusual, but I've heard more the elderly that have this taken the shot have been the one that's been impacted. And that's one reason why the wind is initiating the whole rollout of those 80 and older.

**Mr. Rashid** And they weren't sick before they took the shot. They were or were not sick before they took us.

**Ms. Adams** So I do not know if they were I would like to say that at that age, you have preexisting issues at that age. So, I would like to say that they had something, whatever it was. And also, this is true I need to bring light on this. It was also stated that if you are allergic, you know, we all have allergies. So, if you are allergic to like maybe having had the flu shot or some type of shot cancer shot, that you need to consult with your doctor first.

**Mr. Rashid** Right? If you already made it to 18 without getting sick, and then you get a shot, and suddenly all these other things. I mean that you get took out of here.

**Ms. Adams** Right? Exactly, exactly.

**Ms. Sharpley** I heard that, too, that there was that one doctor, doctor great rate of Florida who died from actually taking the COVID-19 shot. But I also read that last, when was it last week or week before last? It was 578 people in Idaho who took the shot 12 of them died from it. So, you know, it's not been percentage wise, it's not a lot. But then it's something to see. To know that and then just being online, those who took the shot who actually had adverse reactions to it like an anaphylactic shock, or some who are having neurological problems behind it. One lady was in about getting a shot, and her symptoms are more or less like terrets where she can't control her movements.

**Ms. Adams** I think that's what's so scary about the COVID. Because my sorority sister, like I said, who's very young, she's developed heart issues now from having COVID. And she's not the first person that I've talked to, or I've even had a conversation with that. It seems as though it attacks areas where you didn't think that you had a problem. But now all of a sudden you have a problem. And that's a scary thing that I mean to me, I'm just mortified by that. But she has heart issues. Now she said she thought she was actually having a heart attack. And come to find out she had to go see a cardiologist she had to get a stress test, she had to get an echocardiogram. And she's a young person. So there have been young people that have died behind this as well. Okay, this is this COVID has no age. it does not have any type of designation on who you are what you have, if you got money, if you know, it has none of that it looks at not any of that. And so that's the reason why I think that we have to constantly as much as people do not want to keep hearing about it, but we have to continuously having a conversation and especially in the Black community, because as I said, our biggest fear, and I know even when I was at the clinic, is the clinical trials, a lot of Black people did not want to participate because everything kind of goes back to regret or lack. You're familiar with Henrietta Lacks, and the syphilis epidemic. And

when you think about all of that everything is from a trust standpoint. And so that's why I love what my doctor provided me with because he is a black physician. And he gives the best advice that I feel you know, and I just can't speak highly enough is that you know, when this comes out, we have to take it I have not been one that ever had a flu shot. Be honest, like Ms. Sheila, I've never had one when I was at the clinic all those years. I'm still not have one here and thank god I've been blessing. I've been healthy. But this particular virus right here, it scares me. Because, like I said it seems to attack even areas where you've never even had a problem. Okay, and that's scary. That's just very scary, you know. So, and then I looked at today, there's been over 408,000 deaths in the United States. That's a lot of people who have lost families and generations. So

**Mr. Rashid** Any other questions? Miss McDonald,

**Ms. McDonald** I'm glad you brought up about the clinical trials, because that's one of the things that creates kind of this hysteria too, should I get a vaccination, but in looking at, you know, how they're rolling out, and with the number of people that are enrolled in vaccine in the clinical trials, I think we have more numbers than we would have in any ordinary clinical trial, because of the magnitude of what's happening. So, we have a lot of numbers coming in, which has forced us to move quickly to a phase three, whereas opposed to, we will still be in phase one, or going into two, until we got to sort of like the last phases because the, the numbers are coming in a lot quicker. So, I think that when you look at it from a 50/50 standpoint, if you have to roll the dice, you're pretty much safer with saying, I'm going to go for this injection. Because with everything, you're going to have a fatality, we have comorbidities that people already have. And some people like you said are asymptomatic. So, they may be getting the vaccination without even knowing that they have it, which would cause an adverse reaction. So, it is still kind of, you know, I think is it borders more on being safer to habit, you know, expect the unexpected, but I can speak for myself with having underlying medical conditions, difficulty breathing, I would rather go on the safe side, because I am absolutely scared of contracting COVID and then ending up on a respirator.

**Ms. Adams** Yes. And that's a very valid point, Ms. McDonald. And what I will say is that this has also heightened the mental health piece. Okay. And especially for our seniors, you know, many of them are already in isolation. And many of them have loved ones have died, their husbands, their families, I mean, just so much loss. But then it's also heightened a lot of our young people, you know, I've heard more stories about suicide than ever before with our young people, a young man on our street, because him and his girlfriend got into it, he cut his

both his wrist. I've just never seen so much in my life. And I am not that young isn't that right, Mr. Cockfield?

**Ms. Shaheed** Yes. Is there any difference between the two shots the Pfizer shot and the Moderna shot or is it basically the same?

**Ms. Adams** It's basically the same, like I said, I'm going to wait for the Johnson shock, because I just want one shot. I think, you know, when you get the first shot, you have to wait two to three weeks to get the second shot. And that's the reason why the people in New York are spazing out now, because there's not been enough of the second rotation of that shot, and then coming up to people need a second shot. So, for me, I'm going to wait until the Johnson and Johnson ones come out and get the one shot because I think that's just better. I you know, and especially I think even in our Black community trying to track down so many of our people to even do anything, you know, a lot of our people are transient, and I know you won't see this at the library a lot. It's like a one hit Miss, you know what I'm saying? So, I think if we can get the one shot and be one and done, then then go for it. But I will just still say to you are you know as much as hard as it is not to be with your loved ones. It's just a sacrifice that we have to make until everybody is pretty much vaccinated. And that's just kind of where we are right now. It's unfortunate, but that's just what the society to that we're in

**Ms. Adams** How soon is the Johnson & Johnson shot is coming out?

**Ms. Adams** So, they're working on it. It has to be approved by the FDA. They're close. I hope with you know; President Biden has said 100 days. So, I think within way before then we should hopefully have it. Yeah.

**Mr. Latimer** Ms. Adams, I would like to continue our conversation with our staff, and with our public. And I would love to connect you with our network administrator, Mr. Green, who can coordinate if your schedule permits, and of course, we will provide an honorarium to you around new programming. So please work with Ms. Green. She'll get your information from Mr. Turner. But the East Cleveland Public Library is all about informing our community, we are in the business of information.

**Ms. Adams** Yes, you. Thank you so much, you guys.

**Ms. Shaheed** Thank you so much.

**Mr. Cockfield** I just want to ask a question. Do you know if the Stephanie Tubbs Jones clinic will be giving shots?

**Ms. Adams** I know that they were last year Ross. And I don't know I haven't received a schedule this year of that. But I can't tell you that Caroline's is doing it and the NEON down the street from Shaw High School, they do it. Okay, Mary is the director over there. Her name is Mary. And if you all want, I can give you her information, Miss Latimer. So, you all can have it. But NEON is doing it. We had an event in the back there this past summer when we were signing people up for the voter and the census and the shots. And so, NEON does a phenomenal job with doing that. And they will probably have no problem with coming out and doing that on a consistent basis for you Mr. Latimer. So, I'll definitely pass that information on to you as it's good to have and they have a good return, because what you don't want is a four or five day wait on your results. You want 24 hours; 48 hours results on those tests. You know what I'm saying? The sooner you get to test back, the more you know, and that's what you want. And that's what they're providing. So, Caroline's is doing it the county is doing it. I'll share those contacts with you so that you can get that set up there. We still need to be doing testing. We got to do a dislike Mr. Rashid. You're the voting situation is the same thing. You know, I don't know what it is with East Cleveland, that we just don't come out and support these things. But we have to do it is so many people in East Cleveland, they have mental health issues, and they don't take care of themselves. It I say for 11 years, I've dealt with that. And my passion is still there. I grew up in East Cleveland and my passion is always for my people. Regardless, you know, so.

**Mr. Rashid** Well, thank you so very much for your valuable input today. And if there are no other questions....

**Ms. Adams** Thank you. Thank you. I appreciate it. I enjoy it.

**Mr. Rashid** I can tell for sure. Okay, we're going to move to the next item on the agenda which is adjournment.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Dr. Harris** I move for adjournment.

**Ms. Shaheed** Second Mrs. Shaheed. I second that motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Mr. Rashid** We've got the motion in a second. We had to vote on this, and we do all in favor or either Mr. Turner please call the roll.

Discussion: None

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

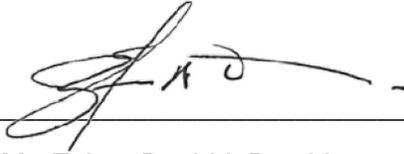
Yes – 7

Motion passes.

**[Meeting is adjourned at 2:27 PM]**

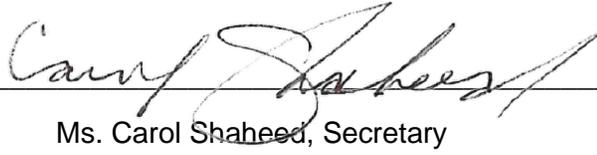
Mr. Mays moved and Mr. Silvera seconds adjournment.

Adjournment is approved.



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Mr. Zakee Rashid, President



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Ms. Carol Shaheed, Secretary