

Fitchburg Public Library
Trustees' Meeting
March 23, 2022
Minutes

Special Meeting to Select a New Director

In attendance: Matt Bruun, Rob Favini, Cynthia Jones, Joanne Huse, Mary Rice Hurley, Eric Mbunwe, Jim Walsh, Dennis Pierce, Jacalyn Kremer, and Muna Kangsen. Director Sharon Bernard was also present.

Jacquelyn Wehtje read a comment prior to the start of the meeting.

Call to order: The meeting began at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Matt Bruun reported that Susan Davis had completed the reference checks for each candidate, contacting three people for each of them. All of the references for both candidates were glowing.

A discussion ensued about the candidates and their qualifications.

Mr. Kangsen reminded the trustees to plan for support for the new director, which could include a mentor and the New Director Group sponsored by the MBLC. The Board will discuss support for the new director at our April meeting.

A motion was made to appoint Deborah Hinkle as the new director. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous to appoint her. The next step is for Susan Davis, Human Resources, to contact Ms. Hinkle with the news and to arrange for background checks. Ms. Davis will contact Cynthia Harbeson when and if Ms. Hinkle accepts the position.

Director Bernard's last day will be May 16. Ms. Hinkle needs to give 4 weeks' notice at her current position if she accepts the position. This would give approximately 2 weeks for Director Bernard to assist Ms. Hinkle in the transition. There are funds for Bernard to return as a consultant as needed to support Ms. Hinkle.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51

Submitted by Cynthia Jones.
Secretary