



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF ANNAPOLIS  
AND ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, INC.**

**4:00 p.m., Thursday, February 17, 2022, Via Zoom**

**Open Session Meeting Minutes**

Mr. William A. Shorter Jr., Chairman, presiding.

Trustees Attending:

Ms. Tonya Baroudi  
Ms. Cathy Belcher  
Ms. Dalix Cruz  
Mrs. Laura Ellis  
Ms. Barbara Maxwell  
Ms. Joyce Miller

Dr. Robert Sapp  
Ms. Simmona Simmons  
Ms. JanElaine Smith  
Ms. Sandra Solomon  
Mr. Gerald Starr  
Ms. Brooke Toomey

Trustees Unable to Attend: Ms. Leslie Anderson and Mr. James Estep

Staff Attending:

Mr. Skip Auld, Chief Executive Officer  
Ms. Donna Denny, Executive Assistant  
Ms. Christina Feldman, Director, Marketing & Communications  
Ms. Catherine Hollerbach, Chief Operating Officer  
Mr. Cedric Grant, Chief Operating Officer  
Mr. Rudy Rodela, Chief Technology Officer  
Mr. Joseph Scalice, Technology and Video Coordinator  
Ms. Cathleen Sparrow, Executive Director, AACPL Foundation

Staff Unable to Attend:

Mr. Koven Roundtree, Director of Human Resources

Guests: AACPL Foundation Directors: Ms. Tessie Ballard, Ms. Martha Blaxall, Ms. Jane Campbell Chambliss, Ms. Linda Greene, Ms. Mary Hagerty, Mr. Stephen Holt, Ms. Stacy Korbelak, Mr. Chris Nelson, Ms. Diane Rinaldo and Ms. Karen Smith; and AACPL Foundation Staff: Ms. Julie Kizer Ball and Ms. Cathleen Sparrow.

Call to Order

Ms. Miller called the meeting to order on behalf of Mr. Shorter.

### Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Miller asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Ms. Smith moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Solomon seconded the motion. All were in favor and the agenda was approved.

### Trustee Briefing

#### *Advocacy Presentation for AACPL Trustees and AACPL Foundation Directors*

Mr. Rodela introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Patrick Sweeney, Political Director for EveryLibrary. Mr. Rodela said EveryLibrary is the first and only national advocacy nonprofit dedicated to building voter support for libraries. EveryLibrary promotes public, school, and academic libraries by advocating in support of public funding and building awareness of public funding initiatives. Mr. Rodela provided Mr. Sweeney's professional background and career highlights.

Mr. Rodela said that during the Covid pandemic AACPL along with other public libraries nationwide demonstrated their value by supporting their communities during a difficult and uncertain time. As we transition to post-pandemic normal, we recognize our funding is always at stake in the voting booth, at least indirectly through the voter's choices for the County Executive and Council. Mr. Rodela said he was pleased to present Mr. Sweeney who would demonstrate that our continued success depends on thoughtful and effective advocacy with our community.

Mr. Sweeney said that EveryLibrary has worked to support libraries in many ballot initiatives, bond measures, and by running campaigns with tools, data, and training to help win election campaigns. The organization has also worked to inform on political issues such as book banning. As he reviewed his slide presentation, he encouraged participants to send their follow-up questions via email to him at [pcsweeney.com@pcsweeney](mailto:pcsweeney.com@pcsweeney) and to use the resources for advanced learning, including webinars, found at <https://www.everylibrary.org/>

Mr. Shorter thanked Ms. Miller for opening the meeting, Mr. Sweeney for his presentation, and the Foundation Directors for joining the Trustees to learn more about advocacy. Ms. Karen Smith, Chair of the AACPL Foundation Board of Directors, thanked Mr. Shorter for inviting them to the meeting.

### Chair's Report

Mr. Shorter announced that Ms. Penny Evans had resigned from the Board of Trustees. A certificate of appreciation in recognition of her twelve years of volunteer leadership service on the Board of Trustees, most recently as a director, will be presented to Ms. Evans.

Mr. Shorter said that the Foundation Report, the Treasurer's Report and staff reports by the Executive Leadership Team would not be reviewed at the meeting but were available on BoardEffect.

### Review of Consent Agenda

Mr. Shorter noted that a "consent agenda" had been included in the meeting agenda, allowing all items within it to be approved in a single action, rather than through the filing of multiple motions. Mr. Shorter moved to approve all the items within the consent agenda including:

Committee of the Whole:

- Open Full Board Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2022
- Approval of Purchases Exceeding \$100,000
- FY23 Operating Budget Request Approval

Governance, Strategy, and Organization Committee:

- Committee Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2022
- Trustee Recruitment Policy Approval
- Policy Review Policy Approval

Human Resource and Diversity Committee:

- Committee Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2022
- Program Selection Policy Approval
- CEO Evaluation Procedure Approval

Ms. Solomon seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda. All were in favor, and the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

Review of Items Removed from Consent Agenda

Mr. Shorter said one item of business outside the consent agenda remained, which was to approve the revised bylaws. He asked Ms. Smith to make a motion for their approval. Ms. Smith moved to approve revised bylaws. All were in favor and the bylaws were unanimously approved as revised.

Mr. Shorter offered a friendly amendment for the bylaws to become effective February 21, 2022. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. The bylaws were unanimously made effective February 21, 2022.

MOTION to Convene in Closed Session

Mr. Shorter announced that the meeting would convene in a closed session, giving the following closing statement as required by the open meetings act General Provisions Article § 3-305(b) only: *(1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or official over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and (2) to protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business.*

Mr. Shorter asked for a motion to close the meeting. Dr. Sapp moved to close the meeting. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. All members voted in favor with none opposed. The meeting began a closed session at 4:40 p.m. The closed session ended at 8:45 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

The next meeting of the AACPL Board of Trustees will consist of committee meetings at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2022, via Zoom.