

Library Board Minutes

May 28, 2020 – Emergency Meeting

Location: Electronic Conference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am. In accordance with the provisions of Section 2.2-3708.2 (3) of the State code, the Library Board met to hold an emergency meeting via electronic conference call in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic to discuss the Library's operating status in the coming weeks during efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Present on the call: Kathleen Schloeder, Oscar Fitzgerald, Helen Desfosses, Trudi Hahn, Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, Robert Ray IV, Patricia Rogers, Director Dawson, Deputy Director Knight, and Division Chief/Administrative Services Wesson.

Director Dawson presented a phased reopening plan for library services which would allow gradual return to full service and would be based on guidance from the Alexandria Health Department, the City of Alexandria leadership, and the guidance from the Governor of Virginia. The plan includes measures to ensure the safety for the staff and the public.

Ms. Bennett-Parker noted that the Library has five phases but the governor's plan has three phases, and asked how we would know when we are moving between phases. The Director noted many of the Council of Government libraries and Region V Virginia libraries had similar five-phase plans, and that Alexandria would coordinate its moves between phases with those local libraries. The public would be informed via normal communications channels about service changes as Alexandria proceeded through the phases.

Ms. Rogers moved that the Library's phased-in reopening plan be approved, with transition dates for each phase to be contingent upon the guidance provided by the Alexandria Health Department, the City of Alexandria, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn at 11:27am was made by Ms. Rogers and seconded by Ms. Bennett-Parker. The motion carried.