

SHAKER HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Board of Trustees  
Special Meeting  
March 5, 2018

Attendance

Members Present: Mr. Bertsch, Ms. Garrett, Mr. Gleisser, Ms. Katz, Mr. Meinhard, Ms. Williams

Member Absent: Mr. Cicarella

Staff Present: Mr. Bagwell, Ms. Brodar, Ms. Brown, Ms. Lamont, Ms. Maxey, Ms. Miller, Ms. Switzer, Ms. Titas

Mr. Gleisser called the special meeting of the Shaker Heights Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 5:57 p.m. in the Main Library Room F.

Roll Call: Mr. Bertsch, Mr. Garrett, Mr. Gleisser, Ms. Katz, Mr. Meinhard, Ms. Williams

2018 Survey Review

Daniel Gotoff of Lake Research Partners reported on key findings of the survey commissioned by the library and conducted in the Shaker Heights Public Library district January 9-21, 2018. A representative sample of 241 likely and registered voters was interviewed. The margin of error is +/- 6.3%.

Shaker Library is viewed positively by 92% of respondents. When asked about the proposed 1.9 mill renovate/repair levy, 61% of respondents supported it, 26% were opposed, and 13% were undecided. There is strong, broad-based support across groups and geographic regions.

Community Comments

None

Review of Electioneering Limitations and Discussion of The Board's Role During The Levy Campaign

Mike Thomas of R Strategy Group reviewed the law about what the library as an institution can and cannot do. The library can and should educate voters about what went into the decision to place a levy on the ballot, but it may not use library resources, including staff time, to ask for votes.

The Board as a whole should not electioneer. As individuals, board members can voice their opinions and should be actively engaged. They have the stewardship of the library on behalf of residents, and are the decision makers who placed the issue on the ballot. The Board should educate people about how they identified the problem and solution.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to discuss, Ms. Williams moved and Ms. Katz seconded the motion to adjourn the special board meeting at 6:48 p.m. and the trustees unanimously agreed.

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Brian Gleisser, President

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Amy Switzer, Deputy Fiscal Officer

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Troy Meinhard, Secretary