

**QUEENS LIBRARY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**  
**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Central Library, 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432 on Thursday, September 19, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 8:34 PM by Chair of the Board, Haeda Mihaltses.

**I. Roll Call**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Haeda Mihaltses	Chair of the Board	Present	
Robert Santos, Esq.	Vice Chair of the Board	Present	
Earl G. Simons, Ed. D	Secretary	Present	
Lydon Sleeper O'Connell	Treasurer	Excused	
Eli Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW	Assistant Treasurer	Present	
Judy E. Bergtraum, Esq.	Board Member	Excused	
Julissa Gutierrez	Board Member	Present	
Matthew M. Gorton	Board Member	Present	
James M. Haddad, Esq.	Board Member	Excused	
Pauline Healey	Board Member	Present	
Andrew P. Jackson	Board Member	Present	
Deborah King	Board Member	Excused	
Carl S. Koerner, Esq.	Board Member	Present	
Michael E. Rodriguez, Esq.	Board Member	Excused	
George Russo, Esq.	Board Member	Present	
Edward Sadowsky, Esq.	Board Member	Excused	
Terri Thomson	Board Member	Present	
Eve Cho Guillergan, Esq	Rep - Speaker	Excused	
Elizabeth Guzman, Esq.	Rep - Public Advocate	Excused	

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Allan Swisher, Esq.	Rep - Borough President	Excused	
Udai Tambar	Rep - Mayor's Office	Excused	
Jimmy Yan	Rep - Comptroller	Present	
Dennis M. Walcott	President & CEO	Present	
Nick Buron	Chief Librarian & Sr. VP	Present	
Lewis Finkelman, Esq.	Chief Operating Officer & Sr. VP.	Present	
Sung Mo Kim	General Counsel & Sr. VP.	Present	
Gitte Peng	Chief of Staff & Sr. VP.	Present	
Michael Tragale	Chief Financial Officer & Sr. VP.	Present	
Jonathan Chung	Director of Government Affairs	Present	
Justin Carroll, Esq.	Associate General Counsel	Present	
Vishnu Dawah	Controller, Finance	Present	
William Funk	Director of Procurement	Present	
William Goldband	VP, Information, Technology & Development	Present	
Sara Hausner-Levine, Esq.	Deputy General Counsel	Present	
John Katimaris	VP, Capital Projects	Present	
Jacqueline Martinez	Director, Human Resources	Present	
Amy Mugavaro	Executive Director, QPLF	Present	
Linda Green	VP, Facilities & Environmental Services	Present	
Sharon Myrie	VP, Programs & Services	Present	
James Phelan	Director of Investigation & Security Department	Present	
Sahar Oudah	Manager, Applications Development	Present	

**II. Approval of BOT Minutes**

**1. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting (ID # 2045)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the Minutes of the Board of Trustees and Committee meetings be approved as submitted.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Andrew P. Jackson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Earl G. Simons, Ed. D
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq, Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**III. Report of the Chairman of the Board**

**IV. Committee Reports**

**A. Labor Relations Committee - September 19, 2019**

**1. Approval of the Labor Relations Committee Report (ID # 2062)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the report item(s) of the committee meeting be accepted and the action item(s) be approved as presented.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carl S. Koerner, Esq.
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Earl G. Simons, Ed. D.
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq, Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**B. Buildings & Grounds Committee - September 19, 2019**

**1. Approval of the Building & Grounds Committee Report (ID # 2047)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the report item(s) of the committee meeting be accepted and the action item(s) be approved as presented.*

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<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Robert Santos, Esq.
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Pauline Healey
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq., Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**C. Finance & Investments Committee - September 19, 2019**

**1. Approval of the Finance & Investments Committee Report (ID # 2068)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the report item(s) of the committee meeting be accepted and the action item(s) be approved as presented.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Terri Thomson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Julissa Gutierrez
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D, Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq., Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**D. Executive Committee - September 19, 2019**

**1. Approval of the Executive Committee Report (ID # 2048)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the report item(s) of the committee meeting be accepted and the action item(s) be approved as presented.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carl S. Koerner, Esq.
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Earl G. Simons, Ed. D
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D, Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq., Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**E. Audit Committee - September 19, 2019**

**1. Approval of the Audit Committee Report (ID # 2063)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the report item(s) of the committee meeting be accepted and the action item(s) be approved as presented.*

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<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carl S. Koerner, Esq.
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Earl G. Simons, Ed. D.
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq, Thomson
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	Andrew P. Jackson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

## V. President's Report

Dennis M. Walcott, President and CEO, asked that Nick Buron, Chief Librarian and Sr. VP give the board on the status of the Library. Mr. Buron reported that the Hip Hop Team has brought a new exhibit to the Central location. This exhibit, created by Sherwin Banfield and titled "A Cypher in Queens," consists of three statues of three Queens hip hop artists: Jam Master Jay of RUN DMC, Phife Dawg of A Tribe Called Quest, and Prodigy of MOBB DEEP. The exhibit will be at Central Library from September 2019 to February 2020. The opening night event was September 19th . The statues are located outside the Media Center door on the first floor.

The exhibit includes audio. Fifty headphones are available in the Central Library Media Center. There will also be health related programming associated with this exhibit on sickle cell anemia and diabetes, as that is how two of three artists died.

Mr. Buron also reported that the Queens Public Library Foundation has secured a nearly \$1 million grant through the City Parks Foundation -- \$995,993 over the next three years -- to operate an environmental education center at Hunters Point Library.

He also reported that the Hunters Point Environmental Education Center was modeled after the Children's Library Discovery Center at Central. The Hunters Point Environmental Education Center will offer a new STEM learning dimension to the branch, giving children ages 3 to 12 the opportunity to understand, study and learn about plant and marine life, pollution, composting, recycling and many other subjects. The center will open this fall.

Gitte Peng, Chief of Staff and Sr. VP and Mr. Buron spoke about the importance of libraries in ensuring a complete count for the 2020 Census. Ms. Peng said that the City was giving \$1.4 million to the three library systems to develop and implement efforts in every community to maximize participation, which affects the allocation of billions of dollars of federal funding as well as political representation. Mr. Buron pointed out that the majority of respondents would complete this upcoming Census online, and libraries will play a key role in providing Internet and technology access, as well as performing outreach so that people participate. The Library will be countering misinformation and fear about participating. Ms. Peng added that census forms would be available in only 12 languages in addition to English. The outreach and other work of our staff will be critical

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in reaching hard-to-count populations. Our staff have already started to receive training. The City is planning an ongoing campaign-style effort, and the Library will be working closely with the City, community-based and other organizations, and the other two library systems in this work.

Mr. Walcott reported that Mr. Finkelman would be retiring on Friday, September 27. Mr. Walcott personally thanked Mr. Finkelman for his time, service, and support to Queens Library. He asked Mr. Finkelman if he would like to say a few words and give a final report to the board.

Mr. Finkelman stated that working at Queens Library has been a privilege and honor. He appreciated the trust and support he received from the board and staff.

Mr. Finkelman gave his final report to the board. He reported that prior to his being hired, the Library had begun the process of transferring ownership of the Mitchell-Linden property to the City. Mr. Finkelman was asked to complete this transfer because he was familiar with the City's Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP). He indicated that he was pleased to announce that the sale of the Mitchell-Linden condominium units had been completed and that the Library had received approximately \$4.3 million from the sale.

He wished the Library all the best.

**1. Key Performance Indicators Report - June 2019 (ID # 2043)**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PRESENTED</b>
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**2. Key Performance Indicators Report - July 2019 (ID # 2064)**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PRESENTED</b>
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**3. Key Performance Indicators Report - August 2019 (ID # 2065)**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>PRESENTED</b>
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**VI. Other Business**

**1. Motion to Go into Executive Session (ID # 2067)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the meeting move into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matter.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Andrew P. Jackson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	George Russo, Esq.
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq, Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**2. Motion to Return to Public Session (ID # 2066)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the meeting return to Public Session.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Andrew P. Jackson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Robert Santos, Esq.
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq., Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**3. Resolution - Key Executive Personnel (ID # 2059)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration by the Board of Trustees:**

*I move that the attached resolution be adopted as presented by the Board of Trustees:*

**RESOLUTION**

**Chief Operating Officer and Sr. VP**

**WHEREAS**, the Library's By-Laws provide, in pertinent part, that, with the exception of the President and Chief Executive Officer, the other key executive personnel of the Library be appointed by the President and Chief Executive Officer with the consent of the Board of Trustees;

**WHEREAS**, Dennis M. Walcott, the Library's President and Chief Executive Officer, selected Sung Mo Kim, Esq. as Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President;

**WHEREAS**, after due deliberation, the Board of Trustees consented to the appointment of Mr. Kim to the position of Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President at its September 19, 2019 meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Kim appointment as Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President will be effective as of October 1, 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that, the records of the Board of Trustees reflect its consent to Mr. Kim's appointment to the position of Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Robert Santos, Esq.
<b>SECONDER:</b>	George Russo, Esq.
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq, Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

**VII. Adjournment**

**1. Motion to Adjourn (ID # 2046)**

**Recommended Motion for Consideration:**

*I move that the meeting be adjourned.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [Unanimous]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Eli Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW
<b>SECONDER:</b>	George Russo, Esq.
<b>AYES:</b>	Mihaltses, Santos, Esq., Simons, Ed. D., Shapiro, Ed. D., LCSW, Gutierrez, Gorton, Healey, Jackson, Koerner, Esq., Russo, Esq., Thomson
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	O'Connell, Bergtraum, Esq., Haddad, Esq., King, Rodriguez, Esq., Sadowsky, Esq.

The meeting was closed at 9:09 PM.

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**Secretary**