

**Flint District Library
March 28, 2022 FDL Board Committee Meeting
Longway Planetarium
Jupiter Room, 5:30 pm**

Present: Brian Larkin, Vivian Kao, Kathy Jackson, Reta Stanley, Audrey Young-Muhammad, Dean Yeotis

Absent with notification: Heather Kale

Staff: Kay Schwartz, Connie Palmer, Leslie Acevedo, Ashoka Rao, Julie McCullough

Members of Public: Norman Bryant, E. Hill DeLoney, Elizabeth Taylor, DeWaun Robinson, Bishop Bernadel L. Jefferson, Barbara A. Biggs, Luther Evans, R. Smith and others

Call to Order: President Stanley called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

Roll Call Vote-Committee Members in Attendance: Yeotis-aye, Young-Muhammad-aye, Kao-aye, Jackson-aye, Larkin-aye, Stanley-aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Brian Larkin made a motion to approve the agenda. Kathy Jackson supported. Motion carried.

Purpose of the Meeting: *Discussion and dialogue around “The Gloria Coles Initiative,” that was presented during the Public Comment period at the March 3, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting*

First Call to the Public

Community members E. Hill DeLoney, Elizabeth Taylor, and Norm Bryant each separately addressed the group regarding “The Gloria Coles Initiative,” which is a recommendation that the Flint Public Library building be named in honor of former Library Director Gloria J. Coles. They spoke in favor of the initiative and recounted the many accomplishments of Ms. Coles during her time as Library Director.

Committee Dialogue: President Stanley and Treasurer Brian Larkin thanked those in attendance for being here tonight and stated that their presence demonstrates how much they care about the community and Ms. Coles. Stanley agreed that Ms. Coles was indeed a wonderful community leader. Larkin thanked the group for sharing detailed, important information and emphasized that Library Director Kay Schwartz and staff members have been and will always be huge champions of Ms. Coles and her legacy. Larkin noted that he wants to be respectful of Ms. Coles wishes.

Other trustees present collectively shared that they have great respect for Ms. Coles and her legacy and they do not want to unintentionally dishonor her in any way. Her concurrence with this initiative is of prime importance and it is imperative that our decisions be guided by that.

Second Call to the Public

Community members DeWaun Robinson, Bishop Bernadel L. Jefferson, Barbara A. Biggs, Luther Evans and others expressed their support for the initiative.

Next Steps: Larkin made a motion for the committee to recommend that the FDL Board go through the process of naming the library building in honor of Gloria Coles. Young-Muhammad supported. Roll call vote: Yeotis-aye, Young-Muhammad-aye, Kao-aye, Jackson-aye, Larkin-aye, Stanley-aye. Motion carried.

This initiative will come before the full FDL Board at the regular April 7, 2022 meeting.

Adjournment: Larkin made a motion to adjourn. Young-Muhammad supported. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:30 pm.



Vivian Kao, Secretary