Maitland Public Library, Inc.

Meeting Minutes from the Nominating Committee

Wednesday July 5 2023 @ 18:30 PM ET

Present: Mr. Robert Allen (Chairman), Mr. Andrew Harrison (Treasurer), Mr. Steven Lee (President) Ms. Marilyn Sandoz (Vice President) & Mr. Michael Timmee (Trustee)

Next meeting: As needed

The meeting was called to order at 18:30 PM ET.

1. Discussion

The nominating committee met to discuss the nomination and voting procedures for the election of the slate of Officers and Trustees for the Maitland Public Library, Inc. and the Maitland Public Library Board of Trustees respectively at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Corporation.

Mr. Harrison provided a run-down of the current procedures, which in past meetings, has amounted to an announcement of the slate of officers, as selected by the nominating committee, from the lectern of the meeting. After that, the floor is opened for others to put themselves forward for those positions. This has worked in the past, as no one has directly challenged the slate from the floor before.

However, the committee realizes that times don’t stand still, and that a voting procedure should be created to handle such scenarios, should a challenge arise.

Therefore, afterwards a recitation of the current state of play, the committee discussed other options regarding elections such as qualifying periods, petitions, or prior attendance at meetings and decided that these concepts would not be successful for this organization and would be too cumbersome and onerous for a volunteer board for annual elections.

Therefore, the committee advises keeping the existing structure in play regarding the election of officers and trustees at the AGM, with the addition of the following voting procedures should a challenge to the slate for any position be undertaken from the floor of the AGM.

“If there is a challenge from the floor regarding the slate of officers, the AGM shall be briefly adjourned, so that an election can take place using those members of the Maitland Public Library that are in attendance at the AGM as the voting bloc. There shall be no proxy votes. An election shall be undertaken for each position being challenged and will be undertaken anonymously through pre-printed voting slips. Voting slips shall be created detailing all four positions of the slate and upon an election taking place, the voter should mark which position is being voted for, and then write in the name of the candidate they wish to elect to that
position. Once the slip is completed, these slips shall be deposited into a vessel, of the Director of the Maitland Public Library’s (the Director) choosing, which shall be designated as the election box, and the election shall last no longer than 5 minutes.

After the 5 minutes have elapsed, the Director shall empty the election box in public, and count the votes for each candidate up for the position. The candidate with the most votes shall be elected to that position.

If there is more than one position being challenged, then this procedure shall take place for each position under challenge. Should no challenges be submitted from the floor, then these voting procedures will not take effect and the slate can be elected through a voice vote on the floor of the AGM.”

The nominating committee was unaware whether this voting procedure needs to be added to our by-laws and will defer to the ad-hoc By-Laws Committee regarding that.

After the conclusion of the discussion regarding the election of the slate of officers of the Corporation, the Nominating Committee turned its attention to the election of the board of Trustees. However, after reviewing the existing by-laws, it appears that anyone can put themselves forward at the AGM for any open spot, and if there are less nominations than open spots, no election would be triggered, and a simple voice vote for election as a trustee would suffice. The nominating committee suggests that the By-Laws committee may need to revisit this to confirm that is their intention.

However, the nominating committee did suggest that should more nominations than open spots take place, the previously discussed election procedures would take place, however rather than an election per open slot, the election would consist of the voting bloc of the AGM writing down their candidates in order of preference for the open positions and the candidates with the most votes would be elected to the open spots.

Upon conclusion of the discussion about election procedures. The nominating committee moved on to review the slate of Officers and Trustees. The committee started with the Officers’ positions. As Mr. Lee, Ms. Sandoz and Mr. Harrison attended the meeting, they all confirmed that they would be willing to continue in their positions for the upcoming term. The nominating committee then reached out to Ms. Hannon via telephone, and she confirmed that she would also be willing to continue in her position as secretary for the upcoming term.

The committee then moved on to review and discuss the Trustee positions for the coming year. The three positions up for renewal this year belong to Mr. Michael Timme, Ms. Jan Bowman and Ms. Davina Spillman. Mr. Timme attended the meeting and informed the committee that he would not be renewing his term with the board as he is moving to Longwood and therefore no longer qualifies to be on the board of Trustees of MPL. The committee thanked him for his short service. We were unable to reach out to Ms. Bowman and Ms. Spillman during the meeting, so
Mr. Harrison agreed that he would reach out to them via email to see if they would be renewing their positions on the board of Trustees.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM ET.