

TRUSTEES OF FORBES LIBRARY
Executive Session of October 19, 2016

Present: Mr. Carrier, Ms. Downing, Ms. Hess, Ms. Moulding, Ms. Reall, Ms. Sheirer, Mr. Twarog, Ms. Wight.

Legal Matter

At 7:34 PM, Ms. Hess moved that the Trustees go into executive session to discuss a legal matter because discussion in open session would be detrimental to their litigating position. Mr. Twarog seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously, with Mr. Carrier, Ms. Hess, Ms. Reall, Mr. Twarog, and Ms. Wight all voting in favor. The Trustees invited Ms. Downing, Ms. Moulding, and Ms. Sheirer to remain as guests at the executive session. Ms. Friedman and Mr. Petcen left the meeting at 7:34 PM. Mr. Carrier, Ms. Downing, Ms. Hess, Ms. Moulding, Ms. Reall, Ms. Sheirer, Mr. Twarog, and Ms. Wight were present during the executive session. No votes were taken during the executive session.

Mr. Carrier reported that a response to the library's counter proposal had been received from the city. There have been some significant shifts in the city's position. The city now agrees that Forbes is not a city department or a government instrument, but are still taking a hard line on open meeting law requirements and the Trustees authority in building renovations and management. Mr. Carrier has discussed the reasons and ramifications for the legal case with the Forbes Library Employee Association (FLEA) and the board of the Friends of Forbes Library. Ms. Moulding, Ms. Downing, and Mr. Carrier met to discuss the city's response, and then met with Attorneys Sandra and Eric Lucentini who are in the process of developing the library's response, which should be ready for review by the end of the week. City Solicitor Alan Seewald suggested that the library could respond in writing or set up a meeting for the lawyers to discuss an agreement. Ms. Reall said a written response is preferable so it can be shared with the mayor. She said one of the Trustees' goals is to settle the matter of the independence of Forbes Library for future generations, and a court decision is the clearest and strongest way to do that. Any written agreement will need to be very strong and clear, and include the key elements the Trustees have identified.

At 7:55 PM, Ms. Hess moved that the executive session be ended and the regular meeting reconvened. Mr. Twarog seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously, with Mr. Carrier, Ms. Hess, Ms. Reall, Mr. Twarog, and Ms. Wight all voting in favor.