

## WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Library Board of Directors  
December 20, 2022.

The hybrid meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present in person: Ms. Abi Boatman, Ms. Erinn Bock, Ms. Donna Douglas, Ms. Rachel Enix, Ms. Lauren Hirsh, Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Mr. Chuck Schmidt, Ms. Shannon Littlejohn, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler. The following attended virtually: Ms. TaDonne Neal.

### Call to Order

Kevin McWhorter called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m., a quorum being present.

### Staff Presentation

Director Nix presented the 2023 work plan to the Board and played a video clip featuring all of the members of the Library's leadership team, each of whom highlighted accomplishments in 2022. Goals for 2023 include efforts to align with core service pillars and to advance three multi-year initiatives that embody inclusion and equity in services, grow library cardholders, and foster an engaged staff workplace.

### Approval of the Agenda

Chuck Schmidt moved (Enix) to approve the agenda as published. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Public Comment

None.

### Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on November 15, 2022 were presented. Erinn Bock moved (Schmidt) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Unfinished Business

Jonathan Winkler moved (Neal) to approve one additional closed day on Saturday, November 10, 2023 for Veteran's Day as a correction to the 2023 Holiday Schedule. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Lauren Hirsh moved (Boatman) to approve the revised SCKLS transfer balance of \$146,073.70 to close out the annual grant and accept an encumbrance of \$3385.19 that was not recorded in November. **Motion carried unanimously.**

After researching the art planned for the opening of the Advanced Learning Library, the Planning and Facilities Committee, not having a quorum, brought a recommendation to the Board. Lauren Hirsh moved (Neal) to recommend two potential sculpture additions to library locations to the City of Wichita Design Council for final approvals. Artists John Waltner and Paul Foley have talked with Library and City staff about their interest in donating their art to the library. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **New Business**

The Wichita Public Library Foundation annually presents a slate of Library Directors to the Library Board for endorsement. The 2023 Library Directors are Jaime Nix, Kevin McWhorter, Justin Henry, Kellie Hogan and Mary Eves. Jonathan Winkler moved (Schmidt) to endorse the Wichita Public Library Foundation nominating committee’s proposed slate of Library Directors. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The Wichita Public Library Foundation adopts an annual spending policy that outlines the management of endowment, gift, and memorial funds that are managed by library staff. TaDonne Neal moved (Boatman) that the Board endorse changes to the Library Foundation Spending Policy as proposed by staff. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Finance Committee Report**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Kevin McWhorter moved to approve the November finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$852,736.69; Grant Fund bills of \$147,085.75; and Gift and Memorial Fund bills of \$4715.61, for a total of \$1,004,538.05. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Operations Committee Report**

None.

### **Planning & Facilities Committee Report**

None.

### **Public Affairs Committee Report**

The committee discussed advocacy opportunities, including a “I Love My Kansas Library” campaign and an effort by the Urban Library Council to reaffirm the freedom to read. On behalf of the Public Affairs committee, Abi Boatman moved to sign the Urban Library Council’s Declaration of Democracy. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Special Committee Reports**

*Friends of the Library (FOL)* – Director Nix reported that the Friends of the Library is reviewing the 2023 Budget Considerations for Library programming and a proposal from the Wichita Public Library Foundation. The board is in the process of electing new executive

members and is currently recruiting for President and Vice President vacancies. The December event brought approximately 200 attendees who purchased \$2000 from the sale. The next in-person book sale is tentatively scheduled for February 25.

Library Foundation – Kristi Oberg discussed annual fundraising goals, which include adding donation envelopes at each library location. The Foundation is in the process of recruiting new board members due to the adoption of term limits a number of years ago. More information will come after a January capital campaign kickoff.

Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) – Julie Crawford reported that WGS did not hold a meeting in December, but February’s meeting will focus on Finding Ancestors. New magazines of interest to genealogists have been added to the collection. WGS is in the process of officer transitions.

### **Director of Libraries Report**

Director Nix provided a brief update on the Westlink expansion project. The City Council has also approved a \$450,000 investment for the library to convert its inventory system to RFID and invest in self-check technologies that will generate efficiencies and improve the library’s management of its physical collections. Library leadership is updating the data from the Branch Master Plan and aims to bring information from this effort to the Board in February 2023. Moreover, WPL will begin a five-year Strategic Plan process in the first quarter of 2023.

All Board members are invited to a year-end reception after the meeting adjourns.

### **Announcements**

Kevin McWhorter asked that board members and library staff consider efforts that can help inform and provide solutions to the community regarding fentanyl.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be January 17, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Nix