

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Directors
July 17, 2018.

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present: Mr. Lamont Anderson, Mr. David Babich, Ms. Lee Gee, Ms. Jennifer Goheen, Mr. Randall Johnston, Ms. Shannon Littlejohn, Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Ms. Tadonne Neal, Ms. Shelby Petersen, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler.

Staff Present: Cynthia Berner, Director of Libraries; Sara Dixon, Adult Programming Section Manager; Kristi Dowell, Customer Services Manager; Cari Eagles-DeVous, Administrative Assistant; Sarah Kittrell, Collection Development Manager; Julie Sherwood, Partnerships and Community Engagement Manager; and Jeff Tate, Digital Services Manager.

Guests Present: Tom Borrego, Jim Byrum and Darla DeSpain.

Call to Order

President Kevin McWhorter called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m., a quorum being present.

Introductions

Director Berner introduced Sara Dixon, Adult Programming Section Manager.

Staff Presentation

Ms. Dixon presented information about drag queen story hours now being offered in many urban libraries. The purpose of the program is to increase awareness and tolerance of, as well as empathy for, the LGBT community. The idea for offering the program in Wichita is based on information from the Knight Foundation *Soul of the Community Report* as shared during the recent Focus Forward event of the Wichita Community Foundation. This report notes that the LGBTQ community is perceived as one of the least welcome groups in Wichita.

Board members were asked for feedback on offering such a program in Wichita. Comments included the importance of clearly describing the event, perhaps not referencing it as a story time, and encouragement to continue to seek ways to ensure that library programs and services are inclusive of the needs and interests of the entire community.

Sara Dixon left.

Approval of the Agenda

Shannon Littlejohn moved (Goheen) to approve the agenda as published. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on June 19, 2018 were presented. Jennifer Goheen moved (Gee) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee did not meet.

David Babich moved (Neal) to approve the revenue report and the 204 report of expenditures for June 2018 as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Lamont Anderson moved (Littlejohn) to approve the report of bills for June 2018 in the following amounts: General Fund operating bills of \$910,568.64; Grant Fund Bills of \$1,500.00; prior year Grant Fund bills of \$35,499.74; and Gift & Memorial Fund bills of \$5,136.93 for a total of \$952,705.31. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Lee Gee moved (Neal) to receive and file the Semi-Annual Report of Staff Travel. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Tadonne Neal moved (Goheen) to receive and file the Semi-Annual Report of the Gift and Memorials Account. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Operations Committee Report

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Chair Jonathan Winkler moved that staff be directed to update policies REF-009 Meeting Room Facilities and REF-009.1 Technology Training Center Rental to reflect changes to the names of and rental fees for meeting rooms. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Chair Jonathan Winkler moved to approve proposed policy REF-009.2 AV Maker Studio contingent on approval as to form from the Law Department. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Planning & Facilities Committee Report

Committee Chair David Babich reported that punch list work at the Advanced Learning Library continues and is focused on security issues, lights, and HVAC systems.

The Comotara branch library closed on July 13. Materials are being transferred to the Advanced Learning Library for distribution to other locations. Furnishings will go to the Central Library for inclusion in the surplus auction.

The Arts Council has donated a painting to the Advanced Learning Library. Staff is in the process of finding a location for the item.

The Angelou branch library is in the process of being repainted.

Shelby Petersen remarked that the landscaping at the Alford branch library being done by volunteers looks great.

Public Affairs Committee Report

The committee did not meet.

Lamont Anderson reported that a back to school event will be held at the Angelou branch library. The event will have live music, performance artists, arts and crafts, story time, and free food. The event is a family event and open to the public.

Special Committee Reports

Friends of the Library – No report.

Library Foundation – Tom Borrego reported that as the Capital Campaign comes to an end the focus of the foundation is now shifting internally to focus on organizational needs.

Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) – Jim Byrum reported that the WGS will once again partner with the library in sponsoring the Big Read. WGS now has 211 members with 31 attending the last monthly meeting. The Genealogy 201 class is continuing and going well. The WGS annual conference will be held on October 13, 2018.

Director of Libraries Report

Director Berner reminded board members who have not taken the mandatory City Board Training to do so. The training may be completed online. Information on accessing the presentation and slides was distributed.

The City Manager has made a series of budget recommendations for 2019 and 2020 to the City Council. These include two items relating to libraries. It is recommended that the Linwood branch library cease operation effective with the 2019 budget. Budget documents and the slides shared during the City Council meeting also referenced closing of the Evergreen branch library with the 2020 budget, although the City Manager specifically commented he was not ready to make a recommendation for closure. These proposals come in conjunction with efforts to increase funding for public safety and street maintenance. City Council budget hearings are to be held on August 7 and 14 with the adoption of the budget taking place on August 14.

The library recently lost an eRate appeal and now must pay \$67,200 back to the federal government. Requirements regarding consideration of price when making decisions about vendors were followed, but this information was not explicitly documented on the scoring sheets of the staff screening committee, which resulted in the declaration of ineligibility.

Lee Gee left.

Revisions to the Customer Code of Conduct may be needed in the future to address library employees being harassed by patrons. There is currently no means to limit a patron's use of the library if he or she is harassing an employee but the conduct does not rise to a level that justifies a customer ban.

President McWhorter encouraged Board members to communicate with their appointing Council members regarding the budget. He will be contacting each Council member on behalf of the Board as well.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Announcements

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 21, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Berner
Director of Libraries