

## WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Directors  
April 16, 2019.

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present: Mr. Lamont Anderson, Ms. Erinn Bock, Mr. Axel Chacon, Ms. Jennifer Goheen, Dr. Justin Henry, Mr. Randall Johnston, Ms. Shannon Littlejohn, Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Ms. TaDonne Neal, Ms. Shelby Petersen, Mr. Chuck Schmidt, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler.

### Call to Order

President Kevin McWhorter called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m., a quorum being present.

### Staff Presentation

Digital Services Manager Jeff Tate described the remodeling of the research tools section of the library website, which now highlights resources for assessing the value and reliability of online resources. New features include information about library technology training as well as online tutorials.

*TaDonne Neal and Axel Chacon arrived.*

### Introductions

Director Berner introduced staff member Kerry Roll, who retires this month after 45 years of service to the Library.

### Approval of the Agenda

Erinn Bock moved (Schmidt) to approve the agenda as published. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Public Comment

Craig Coffey addressed the board regarding the recently adopted programming policy and the failure to publish attachments to the printed version of his comments at the March meeting. Attachment A provides a complete transcript of Mr. Coffey's remarks.

### Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on March 19, 2019 were presented. The issue of attachments to statements made during the public comment section of the meeting was discussed. It was explained that one of the two attachments to Mr. Coffey's comments consisted of a copy of ordinances from the Wichita City Code, already publicly available. The other was a copyrighted news article for which the Library Board did not have the necessary permission for re-publication. Board members Chuck Schmidt and Shannon Littlejohn

expressed concerns about adding more attachments to the official record of meetings. President McWhorter noted that the Library is already more accommodating than City Council, which does not allow public commenters to submit written versions of their remarks for inclusion with meeting minutes as attachments. Director Berner suggested that Mr. Coffey consider adding links to the ancillary information, as a way to direct attention to it without necessitating publication of third-party material for which the Library may not have copyright permissions. Lamont Anderson moved (Goheen) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Finance Committee Report**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Chair Erinn Bock moved to approve the revenue report and the 204 report of expenditures for March 2019 as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Ms. Bock moved to approve the report of bills for March 2019 in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$707,500.77; Grant Fund Bills of \$10,175.46; and Gift & Memorial Fund bills of \$358.42 for a total of \$718,034.65. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Ms. Bock moved to approve the 2019 State Grants-in-Aid budget as proposed and to authorize staff to submit the grant contract to the City Council. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Operations Committee Report**

Committee Chair Jonathan Winkler reported the committee reviewed the Interlibrary Loan report and discussed a number of policy-related issues summarized in board packets. The committee asked staff to conduct more research on the feasibility of conducting background checks for program presenters who work with children.

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

Committee Chair Randy Johnston reported that the Advanced Learning Library punch list has dwindled significantly. HVAC problems are nearly fixed, remaining exterior directional signs are being installed, and vinyl floor tile issues are being addressed. Completion of the avian migration art piece has been delayed as the artist has moved out of town, exterior lighting on the south side is still in planning, and gutters need to be installed near the main entrance and drive-up window as rain water overspills in these areas.

Branch maintenance issues were also reviewed. Staff are working to reach the master gardeners who maintained the Alford branch landscaping last year to confirm their interest in continuing to volunteer for this work.

Ms. Shelby Petersen asked about the potential for scooters being placed near the bicycle share racks located at the library and whether provision will extend to the branches. Scooters are expected at the Advanced Learning Library but not in any branch locations.

## **Public Affairs Committee Report**

Committee Chair Lamont Anderson reported that a letter is being drafted for legislators in the South Central delegation to invite them to tour the library. This missive is to be sent as they go on summer break.

The committee has requested that staff provide all board members with an American Library Association document regarding the use of federal funding by Kansas libraries.

The Friends of the Library have invited the Board and the Foundation Board to partner on a team for the ICTBee Adult Spelling Bee. The committee recommends participation. Shannon Littlejohn volunteered to be the representative for the Board.

## **Special Committee Reports**

*Friends of the Library* – Director Berner reported that the Friends of the Library would like to express appreciation for those board members who were able to attend the Volunteer Luncheon. The next used book sale will be held on April 27.

*Library Foundation* – Tom Borrego reported that the Library Day of Giving raised almost \$30,000. Half was given as a challenge match donation. Mr. Borrego has been asked by the Association of Fundraising Professionals to deliver a presentation on the Advanced Learning Library Capital Campaign.

*Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS)* –The GEN 101 class is in the middle of its series with the GEN 201 class scheduled to begin on May 16. The annual WGS conference has been scheduled for October 5.

## **Director of Libraries Report**

Director Berner reminded board members that the May board meeting is the annual meeting. The Branch Plan Steering Committee will meet on April 23 to discuss issues raised during the Library Board/City Council workshop.

Now that the programming policy has been approved, staff training classes will be held to ensure employees working on programs are familiar with the policy. In addition to the need for resolution on the issue of background checks for program presenters, more information about program planning deadlines is needed due to the upcoming consolidation of event calendars of City Arts, the Library and the Park & Recreation department. Once these issues are resolved, an online proposal form will be made available on the Library's website for those wishing to volunteer to present programs.

## **Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Announcements**

Mr. Schmidt thanked President McWhorter for his leadership and handling of meetings over the past several months.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be May 21, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Berner  
Director of Libraries

Attachment A

April 16, 2019

Wichita Public Library Board of Directors  
711 W 2nd St.  
Wichita, KS 67203

Dear Board Members:

Please enter this Statement into the meeting minutes in it's entirety.

Along with addressing this Board, I will now actively join with many others in continuing to bring the Programming Policy issue before the City Council.

I would like to offer public acknowledgement and appreciation to Board members Randall Johnston and Shelby Petersen in voting FOR the requested 30 day Policy review continuance and for voting AGAINST the finalized Programming Policy. Whatever your reasons for voting responsibly and in keeping with sane community standards, you are to be commended. Thank you for standing with the 98% majority against the 2% of LGBTQ activists with the stated agenda of targeting our children with progressive, far-left ideology. This includes the liberal agenda of the American Library Association.

As I always do, I requested at the March meeting to have my Statement entered into the meeting minutes in it's entirety. My March Statement included attachments from other public records supporting the need to oppose the Programming Policy.

Attachment #1 was a copy of the City of Wichita's Code of Ordinances as it pertains to public lewd and lascivious behavior, sexual misconduct, and promotion of obscenity to minors. In that document I highlighted certain Ordinances directly addressing the behaviors shown by the Drag Queen Story Hour participants last September.

Attachment #2 was a news report from Houston, TX showing one of their Library's drag queens had been previously charged with child sexual assault. Since that time a second drag queen participant in Houston has been found to be a registered sex offender.

The April Agenda does NOT include those attachments and as a result they are

not a part of the public record. Director Berner, why were the documents removed and who made that decision? I am formally requesting that those documents be replaced as part of the public record because they were a key part of my Statement. They also show a direct bearing on this programming issue and are among many reasons why the majority of the taxpaying public oppose such immoral activism toward our children.

I would like to once again apply to host a children's reading hour in the Library with the understanding my request will fall under the revised Programming Policy. This story time will be devoted to the reading of Bible stories geared toward children. Please email me the application procedure so this event can be scheduled.

I will leave you with a final comment. The wise among you will understand. This is a Bible passage I recently shared with the Wichita Ministerial League. It comes from Matthew 18:4-6, and verses 10-11. "4Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5Whoever receives *and* welcomes one child like this in My name receives Me; 6but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble *and* sin [by leading him away from My teaching], it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone [as large as one turned by a donkey] hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. 10"See that you do not despise *or* think less of one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven [are in the presence of and] continually look upon the face of My Father who is in heaven. 11For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost."

Regards,  
Pastor Craig Coffey