

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Directors
June 18, 2019.

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present: Mr. Lamont Anderson, Ms. Donna Douglas, Ms. Jennifer Goheen, Ms. Lauren Hirsh, Mr. Randall Johnston, Ms. Shannon Littlejohn, Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Ms. Shelby Petersen, Mr. Chuck Schmidt, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler.

Staff Presentation

Technology Training Manager Cindy Bailey and Youth Services Manager Erin Howerton presented information about the Teen Hack-a-Thon scheduled for July 27-28. This program is for teens aged 14-18 and encourages participants to collaborate, create, and apply critical thinking skills to solve problems. The focus of the event is the use of technology to measure benefits of healthy habits for teens. Participants will rely on the Internet, library resources, and the advice of adult mentors to complete their projects. At the end of the event, competing groups will present their projects to a panel of judges.

Call to Order

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

Introductions

Director Berner introduced Lauren Hirsh, who has been appointed to the board by Councilmember James Clendenin.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on May 21, 2019 were presented. Donna Douglas moved (Goheen) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Finance Committee Report

On behalf of the Finance Committee, President Kevin McWhorter moved to approve the corrected April Grant Fund Summary Report as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. McWhorter moved to approve the Revenue Report and the 204 Report of Expenditures for May 2019 as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. McWhorter moved to approve the bills for May 2019 in the following amounts: General Fund operating bills of \$905,705.68, Grant Fund Bills of \$13,421.88, and Gift & Memorial Fund bills of \$101,151.43, for a total of \$1,020,278.99. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Operations Committee Report

Committee Chair Jonathan Winkler reported that the committee reviewed the staff report on background checks that was included in board packets. The Committee has asked staff to draft a policy calling for screening of all program presenters using the Dru Sjin National Sex Offender Public Website. This policy should also outline requirements for having multiple staff members, Library volunteers, or other adults in the room during all Library programs involving children or vulnerable adults. Director Berner added that since most program planning has already been completed for 2019, the Committee discussed making the new policy and procedures effective at the beginning of 2020.

President McWhorter asked Mr. Winkler if he knew when the committee would have a policy proposal ready to present to the board. Mr. Winkler stated that a draft policy should clear legal review and be ready for consideration within the next two months.

Planning & Facilities Committee Report

Committee Chair Randy Johnston reported that roof repairs have been done in several branch libraries. There is still a leak in the basement at the Rockwell branch. Roof leaks at the Advanced Learning Library continue to be monitored and repaired. There have been some air conditioning problems at the Alford branch.

Landscaping at the Advanced Learning Library has multiple issues. The work has not yet been accepted by the City. Dead plants and trees are in the process of being replaced. The irrigation system will be repaired. Weeds are to be removed from the turf areas and the planting beds.

Public Affairs Committee Report

No report.

Special Committee Reports

Friends of the Library – Director Berner reminded board members that the ICT Adult Spelling Bee is taking place on June 19. On August 8 the Friends of the Library will host Jennifer Pharr Davis, author of *The Pursuit of Endurance*.

Library Foundation – President McWhorter informed board members that Foundation CEO Tom Borrego has resigned in order to take a similar position with another community organization. The process to find a replacement has begun.

Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) – Jim Byrum reported books from the Kansas Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution Library will arrive the second week of July. WGS members will assist staff as they process the donation. The July monthly meeting will feature a program by Margaret Kline titled “Finding Your Patriot.” WGS membership holds steady at 210.

Director of Libraries Report

Director Berner reported that the City Council unanimously endorsed the Branch Master Plan on June 11. Councilmember Clendenin asked that a special effort be made to promote the benefits of relocating the Linwood branch to residents of Southeast Wichita. A first opportunity is to explore the possibility of working with the WSU Tech South Campus to offer basic digital literacy courses. Many students at this campus are enrolling without the computer skills to be successful in their studies. The campus has a computer laboratory but lacks instructors. The Library has a team of technology trainers and access to the Grow with Google Applied Digital Skills curriculum. A pilot project for joint sponsorship of courses may begin this fall.

The Library has received a \$15,000 grant from the National Endowment of the Arts for a NEA Big Read: Wichita program. The featured title for this year is *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren.

Staff members will also attend a Complete Count Committee meeting later this week to discuss how libraries can help ensure a complete 2020 census count of residents of Wichita and Sedgwick County.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Announcements

President McWhorter announced that the July Board meeting will be held in the Stevens Board Room.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be July 16, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Berner
Director of Libraries