

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Directors
July 21, 2020.

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held virtually on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 with the following present: Mr. Lamont Anderson, Ms. Donna Douglas, Ms. Lauren Hirsh, 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 12:02 p.m., a quorum being present.

Approval of the Agenda

Donna Douglas moved (Littlejohn) to approve the agenda as published. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on June 16, 2020 were presented. Shannon Littlejohn moved (Neal) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Unfinished Business

Director Berner advised that the Design Council reviewed the proposed mural for the Maya Angelou Northeast branch and recommended several changes, including securing rights to use Ms. Angelou's likeness and quote, using stencils for elements to be painted by youth, adding a more diverse color palette, and considering the different building materials and lighting in determining the size and placement of the mural. Lamont Anderson stated that the artist is in the process of modifying the mural design. An updated proposal will be submitted by Real Men, Real Heroes when these changes have been completed.

New Business

City Budget Officer Elizabeth Goltry provided an update on the City's proposed 2021-2022 Operating Budget and 2021-2030 Capital Improvement Program. Ms. Goltry outlined how economic uncertainties arising from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have affected budget development. Library budget changes were discussed in detail. The final public hearing and adoption of the budget will take place on August 11.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Kevin McWhorter moved (Hirsh) to approve the June 2020 finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$750,931.87; COVID-19 bills of \$12,948.79; South Central Kansas Library System grant fund bills of \$23,675.45; and Gift and Memorial Fund bills of \$1,114.50, for a total of \$788,670.61. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Shannon Littlejohn moved (Schmidt) to approve the subscription renewal of the AtoZ Database in the amount of \$16,174. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Jonathan Winkler moved (Douglas) to receive and file the Semi-Annual Report of Staff Travel and the Semi-Annual Accounting of the Gift and Memorial Fund. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Finance Committee Report

None

Operations Committee Report

Committee Chair Jonathan Winkler reported that staff will be preparing some proposed policy changes for consideration at the next meeting, including information relating to reorganizations required by the budget.

Planning & Facilities Committee Report

Committee Chair Randall Johnston reported that an on-call agreement with LK Architecture has been signed for assistance with furniture, fixture and equipment selections for the relocated Linwood branch. The occupancy date will still fall in the first quarter of 2021.

The City Council has approved a contract with SJCF Architecture for completion of design and construction documents for remodeling of the Evergreen library. The project timeline has been extended, with the Library not needing to vacate the building until the end of December.

As part of the Sesquicentennial celebration, Together Wichita has commissioned thirteen Keeper of the Plains statues to be placed around the community. Two statues will be located within each of the six Council districts. The Mayor has designated the final placement and has selected the Advanced Learning Library.

Public Affairs Committee Report

None

Special Committee Reports

Written reports from the Library Foundation and Wichita Genealogy Society were included in packets.

Director of Libraries Report

Director Berner reported that the Library continues to offer a limited service model. Curbside operations may continue indefinitely as cases of COVID-19 continue to rise in the city and county. Most programming continues to be postponed, and the quarantine period for returned materials will be increased from three days to four in accord with recent IMLS/OCLC research findings concerning persistence of the virus on book pages.

Lauren Hirsh will be moving to the Planning and Facilities Committee.

As part of the library reorganizations mentioned in Ms. Goltry's presentation, two professional librarian positions are proposed for elimination. The Learning Services and Programming & Community Engagement Divisions will be consolidated, resulting in the elimination of one Library Manager. The other change eliminates a position dedicated to youth outreach and makes neighborhood outreach part of the duties of all of the children's librarians working in branches and at the Advanced Learning Library. If these changes form part of the Council-approved budget, the reorganizations and job eliminations will become effective on September 5.

Director Berner stated that her retirement date has been set for September 18.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 18, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Berner
Director of Libraries