

## WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Library Board of Directors  
May 18, 2021

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present: Ms. Abi Boatman, Ms. Erinn Bock, Ms. Donna Douglas, Ms. Jennifer Goheen, Dr. Justin Henry, 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.

### Staff Presentation

Youth Services Manager Erin Howerton provided information about the 2021 Summer Reading Program, Tails & Tales. Preregistration has begun with the program running from June 1 to July 29. Customers will be able to choose from three different zones based on age: Baby Bookworms (ages 0-2 years), Kids Read (ages 3-11 years), and Teen Read (ages 12-18 years). There are four goal levels set at 200, 400, 1,000, and 2,000 minutes with each achieved goal earning the reader a prize. Participants who reach the 2,000 minute goal will be entered into the drawing for the grand prize. Sponsors for this year include the Friends of the Library, Spangles, Carlos O’Kelly’s and more. Programming this year will be a mix of virtual and in person. Storytimes will be available on Mondays in person at Naftzger Park in the morning and Clapp Park in the afternoon.

### Approval of the Agenda

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

### Public Comment

None

### Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on April 20, 2021 were presented. Chuck Schmidt moved (Douglas) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Unfinished Business

Jonathan Winkler provided an update on the Evergreen naming process, which launched online through Facebook, Twitter, and the City of Wichita’s website on April 29 and was presented at

the Mayor's briefing the same day with coverage from media outlets KSN and KSCW.

*Randall Johnston arrived.*

Print advertisements and forms both in paper and online have been created in both English and Spanish to reach a wider range of community members. As of May 11, 81 entries had been received; those alone should provide a good selection of names to choose from.

### **New Business**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Kevin McWhorter moved (Schmidt) to approve the April 2021 finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$972,777.47; Grant Fund bills of \$6,358.85; and Gift and Memorial Fund bills of \$11,685.81 for a total of \$990,822.13. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Jonathan Winkler read the report of the Nominating Committee, which has recommended the following slate for the 2021-2022 year: President Kevin McWhorter; First Vice-President TaDonne Neal; Second Vice-President Erinn Bock; Secretary Shannon Littlejohn; Treasurer Jonathan Winkler; Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Kristi Dowell. There were no additional nominations. Winkler moved (Petersen) to approve the slate of officers. **Motion carried unanimously.**

A review and affirmation of the Library's Internet Access and Acceptable Use Policy is required at least once every three years for compliance with the Kansas Children's Internet Protection Act. Jonathan Winkler moved (Neal) to affirm REF-004 Internet Access and Acceptable Use Policy and to direct staff to report completion of the policy review to the State Library of Kansas. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Finance Committee Report**

No report

### **Operations Committee Report**

No report

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

No report

### **Public Affairs Committee Report**

No report

### **Special Committee Reports**

*Friends of the Library* – Amanda Shankle reported that the bookstore has been doing well since the reopening. Help is being coordinated to assist in organizing the storeroom while

opportunities to have more book sales is being researched.

Library Foundation – Kristi Oberg thanked library staff for assisting in the submission of a federal grant worth \$50,000 through the American Rescue Plan. Collection Development Manager Sarah Kittrell advised that the grant funds will be used to create an online space for digital items in the Special Collections Department. The company BitCo Inc. will assist in digitizing the photo collection and aerial maps.

Ms. Oberg advised that the next grant to be worked on will be one for the City of Wichita Cultural Arts program. Recent years have shown a decrease in the amount of funding approved for this grant due to the way in which the grant application was worded. Work is being done to determine how to improve the writing of the application for this grant in order to increase funding.

The Foundation received \$20,000 to go toward a new hotspot program for the library. Digital Services Manager Jeff Tate advised that the 50 hotspots will be pushed out for circulation in mid-June.

Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) – Julie Crawford advised that the April meeting had 81 attendees and the May meeting had 31 attendees. Plans are going forward to host the annual WGS Conference normally held in October at the Wichita State University Hughes Metroplex.

### **Director of Libraries Report**

Interim Director Dowell reported that Vice Mayor Brandon Johnson has appointed Daisha Eaton as the Library Board member representing District I.

Staff is working with Public Works to touch up the paint on the first floor of the Advanced Learning Library. Doorstops have been placed on the sliding doors of the Research Pavilion to hold them open. Sycamore Street has reopened allowing the east entrance to be open as well. The sidewalk replacing the stone pavers at the Alford branch has been completed, and the installation of a sidewalk at the Advanced Learning Library connecting the north and west parking lots will begin soon.

The building owner of the Walters branch has given approval to install a bike rack at the location. The owner additionally advised that flowers or landscaping will be planted at the branch as well.

Permits have been received in order to begin construction at the Evergreen Neighborhood Resource Center that will be housing the new library branch.

Board members were asked to please turn in Conflict of Interest forms if they had not already done so.

Department directors will be meeting with the City Manager to discuss current CDC guidelines and how they will affect mask and social distancing requirements at city buildings. Board members were asked for their input on moving forward with these requirements so concerns could be addressed at the meeting with the City Manager. Board members shared their

concerns relating to how staff feel about lifting mask requirements, enforcement of policies, and encouraging the public to be self-aware and continue to follow safety standards. Interim Director Dowell advised she would include these concerns in her statement at this meeting.

**Announcements**

None

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 15, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Dowell