

## WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of the hybrid Meeting of the Library Board of Directors  
July 20, 2021

The hybrid meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present in person: Ms. Donna Douglas, Mr. Randall Johnston, Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Ms. Shelby Petersen, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler. The following attended virtually: Ms. Abi Boatman, Ms. Erinn Bock, Ms. Daisha Eaton, Dr. Justin Henry, Ms. Lauren Hirsh, Ms. Shannon Littlejohn, and Ms. TaDonne Neal.

### Call to Order

President Kevin McWhorter called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m., a quorum being present.

### Staff Presentation

Elizabeth Goltry, Budget Officer from the City Finance Department, presented information about the 2022-2023 proposed City Budget and the 2022-2031 proposed Capital Improvement Program. Specific highlights include the following:

- Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing. Revenue forecasts for sales tax, charges for services, motor fuel tax, franchise fees and other revenues are trending upward.
- The mill levy rate is unchanged. This is the 28th consecutive year that the mill levy has remained stable.
- Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) is used. The City of Wichita has been allocated \$72.4 million. Vacant positions will be filled, services that were cut in 2020 will be restored and more. Funding will also be used for Fire stations, Police sub-stations and library branch improvements.

*TaDonne Neal arrived*

Library specific highlights from the budget include approval to fill 12 vacant positions, reinstatement of the budget for materials, the elimination of hold fees, and additional budget for technology needed to support curbside pick-up. The Operating City Budget and Capital Improvement Program are intended to be adopted on August 24 by City Council.

### Approval of the Agenda

Shelby Petersen moved (Douglas) to approve the agenda as published. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Public Comment

None

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the regular meeting held on June 15, 2021 were presented. Shelby Petersen moved (Winkler) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Unfinished Business**

Jonathan Winkler reported that surveys have been collected with name suggestions for the new Evergreen Center. Board members provided their top names of choice during a round robin discussion and the top five names were decided. Jonathan Winkler moved (Petersen) to present the following names to the public for the next round of surveys: El Norte, Evergreen, Arteaga, El Pueblo, and Adelante. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **New Business**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Kevin McWhorter moved (Douglas) to approve the June 2021 finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$690,732.33; Grant Fund Bills of \$42,069.33; and Gift and Memorial Fund bills of \$1,456.52 for a total of \$734,258.18. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Jonathan Winkler moved (McWhorter) 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 the Gift and Memorials Account as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Kevin McWhorter moved (Hirsh) 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.**

*Abi Boatman left*  
*TaDonne Neal left*  
*Erinn Bock left*

### **Finance Committee Report**

None

### **Operations Committee Report**

None

## **Planning & Facilities Committee Report**

None

## **Public Affairs Committee Report**

None

## **Special Committee Reports**

*Friends of the Library* – Amanda Shankle reported that the Friends are hoping to hold an outside book sale at the end of September. Operations Manager Melissa Baum is moving and will be unable to spend a lot of time physically at the library. The Friends Board is planning ways to supplement her presence.

*Library Foundation* – Kristi Oberg reported that in a partnership with Weigand & Sons, media spots promoting the Foundation and the library have been and will be shown at 16 Wichita Wind Surge games in the future.

*Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS)* – Julie Crawford reported that the WGS Annual Conference will be an all-day event this year on October 9.

## **Director of Libraries Report**

Interim Director Dowell reported that lighting for the flag poles at the Advanced Learning Library was repaired and the flags are now flying once again. Bike racks at the Walters branch have been installed.

The City of Wichita has updated the mask and social distancing policy. Effective Friday, July 2, there is a revised mask and social distancing policy for all City of Wichita facilities:

- City employees and members of the public who have been fully vaccinated by one of the approved COVID-19 vaccines and are not otherwise at-risk are no longer required to wear a mask within City of Wichita facilities.
- For those employees and others visiting City Hall who have NOT been vaccinated, entrance signs for City facilities strongly encourage them to wear masks while in the building in compliance with OSHA and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance.

The Library has applied for the following three grants as a result of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds: Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS); State Library of Kansas grant (from IMLS ARPA funds); and the FCCs Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) grant.

## **Announcements**

None

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 17, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Dowell