

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Library Board of Directors
August 17, 2021.

The hybrid meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present in person: Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Ms. Shelby Petersen, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler. The following attended virtually: Dr. Justin Henry, Ms. Lauren Hirsh, Ms. Shannon Littlejohn, Ms. TaDonne Neal, and Mr. Chuck Schmidt.

Call to Order

President Kevin McWhorter called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m., a quorum being present.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

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

Unfinished Business

Tiayla Maholmes, project coordinator for Real Men, Real Heroes, presented the new design for the proposed mural at the Maya Angelou branch. The original design was first presented in March 2020 but due to suggested changes by the Design Council and the ongoing pandemic it was postponed. The new design has been accepted by the Design Council and now needs approval by the Library Board to move forward. The next step will be for the City Council to approve the design at the next City Council meeting. If approved, Real Men Real Heroes plans to complete the project in September. Local artist Priscella Brown will be working with area youth to complete the project.

TaDonne Neal moved (Littlejohn) to accept the updated design as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

New Business

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Kevin McWhorter moved (Littlejohn) to approve the July 2021 finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of

\$640,635.37; Grant Fund Bills of \$32,434.89; and Gift and Memorial Fund bills of \$1,072.73 for a total of \$674,142.99. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Interim Director Kristi Dowell provided a brief summary of the WPL Foundation’s request for access to names from the Library customer database for end of year fundraising purposes. The Foundation will create a mail merge letter that would then be given to staff who will submit that as well as the contact information to the mail printer. This process ensures that the Foundation only receives the names of individuals who make contributions or ask to be added to the Foundation mailing list.

TaDonne Neal moved (Hirsh) to authorize staff to support the year-end solicitation of the Library Foundation by supplying the requested customer account information. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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 have started receiving some donations but are not promoting this to the public yet due to limited capacity. An in-person used book sale is being considered for some time in September but may be switched to a virtual sale depending on the pandemic.

Library Foundation – Kristi Oberg shared efforts the Foundation is making to engage and re-engage donors in annual giving. The four key areas to growing the annual giving program are to acquire new donors, keep current donors engaged to increase their support, re-engage lapsed donors, and to appreciate lapsed and current major gift donors.

Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) – Julie Crawford informed board members that plans are still in place to move forward with the WGS Annual Conference at the Wichita State University’s Hughes Metroplex on October 9. Monthly meetings and interest groups are still doing well meeting on Zoom.

Director of Libraries Report

Interim Director Dowell reported that the Library has received an ARPA grant valued at \$14,286 that will be used to update the functionality of the laptop dispenser at the Advanced Learning Library.

A roof leak in the children's pavilion at the Advanced Learning Library has been repaired. The planes providing shade over the children's garden have begun to be installed. Four planes have been painted and delivered for installation with the three remaining planes being shipped to Spirit in the near future for painting.

The air conditioning unit on the north side of the Advanced Learning Library has been repaired.

The owner of the building housing the Walters branch has approved the installation of ADA automated door openers. City funding has already been approved. A grand opening for the Walters branch is set for September 18.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be September 21, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Dowell