

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Library Board of Directors
April 19, 2022.

The hybrid meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present in person: Ms. Abi Boatman, Ms. Erinn Bock, Ms. Donna Douglas, Dr. Justin Henry, Ms. Lauren Hirsh, Ms. Shannon Littlejohn, Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Ms. Shelby Petersen, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler. The following attended virtually: Mr. Randall Johnston, and Ms. TaDonne Neal.

Call to Order

President Kevin McWhorter called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m., a quorum being present.

Staff Presentation

Collection Development Manager Sarah Kittrell provided information on a project to gather COVID-19 stories from the surrounding community. In October 2021, the Library received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to document the effect of COVID-19 in Wichita. The Library has received over 40 surveys, over 1100 photos, poems, and podcasts to review and upload to the website Content DM, a local content platform. The first round of responses will be uploaded by May.

Announcement

Kristi Oberg introduced Traci Ball the newly hired Development Associate for the Wichita Public Library Foundation.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on March 15, 2022 were presented. Shelby Petersen moved (Douglas) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Kevin McWhorter moved (Bock) to approve the March finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$782,632.18; Grant Fund Bills of \$398.00; and Gift and Memorial Fund bills of \$49,666.99 for a total of \$832,697.17. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Erinn Bock moved (Hirsh) to approve the proposed FY22 South Central Kansas Library System Grant as proposed by staff. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Finance Committee Report

Chair Kevin McWhorter reported the committee did not have a quorum.

Operations Committee Report

The committee did not have a quorum. Chair Jonathan Winkler informed the board that the committee is currently reviewing policy updates that will be presented in the May packet.

Planning & Facilities Committee Report

Chair Justin Henry reported the committee met and discussed upcoming branch expansion and enhancement projects.

Public Affairs Committee Report

Chair Shannon Littlejohn reported that the grand opening of the Evergreen Community Center & Library was well attended by the community. Communications Specialist Sean Jones discussed with the committee the amount of live media being done for the Library as well as funding for promoting the Summer Reading Program.

Special Committee Reports

Friends of the Library – Erin Shields reported that the April book sale at the Advanced Learning Library was a great success. Within the first hour and a half, over 120 Friends Advocates enjoyed early access. Over 625 individuals attended the sale overall. In total, over \$4,000.00 in funds were collected. There will be a mini book sale set up at Riverfest this year. The Friends of the Library is currently in the process of recruiting new board members as many of the current board members will be facing term limits this year.

Library Foundation – Kristi Oberg reported that \$53,000.00 has been raised so far this year with \$63,000.00 in grants applied for. A \$25,000.00 grant from the Lattner Family Foundation will fund the hot spots for another year. The Foundation has separated the endowed and non-endowed investments into two accounts. The Foundation is in the process of recruiting new board members as many of the current board members are facing term limits this year.

Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) – The April meeting was held in-person and was successful. The May meeting will be on the second Saturday instead of the third.

Director of Libraries Report

Director Prothro reported that the meeting rooms are now open and available to rent. The last recovery effort from the pandemic will be branches beginning to schedule Book-A-Librarian appointments, which have only been available at the Advanced Learning Library. This service will resume at the branch level in May.

In partnership with Watermark Books & Café, the Library will be hosting two authors: Ash Davidson, author of *Damnation Spring* on May 11th at 6pm and on May 17 at 6pm Candice Millard, author of *River of the Gods*.

Library staff will be attending budget hearings in the next week to review 2024 recommendations. The CIP budget is still being worked on to account for inflation and unforeseen changes due to the pandemic.

A supervisory retreat for Library supervisors was held on April 8 and facilitated by Library Board member Donna Douglas. Work was done to determine steps necessary to ensure a positive culture at the Library.

The Library is collaborating with Ellamonique Barcus, a local author who is designing an art installation in celebration of Chester I Lewis. The Library is working with KMUW's Carla Eckels to add narrative and audio content to the PocketSites app, which hosts historic city tour information.

Wichita Public Library and Exploration Place will partner to present a city-wide Makerfest in Fall 2023.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be May 16, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Prothro