

## WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Library Board of Directors  
November 21, 2023.

The hybrid meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday November 21, 2023 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present in person: Ms. Donna Douglas, Mr. Randall Johnston, Mr. Kevin McWhorter, Ms. Shelby Petersen, Mr. Chuck Schmidt, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler. The following attended virtually: Ms. TaDonne Neal.

### Call to Order

Kevin McWhorter called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., a quorum being present.

### Approval of the Agenda

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

### Public Comment

None

### Staff Presentation

Director Nix played the Wichita Public Library segment for the upcoming show PBS Viewpoint. This coverage, which will play on PBS stations across the country, will hopefully elevate the Library's story within the community. She also spoke of how themes mentioned on camera connect to the forthcoming Strategic Agenda that will be presented for Board discussion in December.

### Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on October 17, 2023 were presented. TaDonne Neal moved (Schmidt) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Unfinished Business

None

### New Business

Director Nix presented proposed updates to spending policies for the Wichita Public Library Foundation. The only major change folds the Employee Flower Fund into the existing Staff Association Fund.

Jonathan Winkler moved (Petersen) to endorse changes to the Library Foundation Spending Policies as presented by staff. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Finance Committee Report**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Chuck Schmidt moved to approve the October finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$1,969,468.91; Grant Fund Bills of \$16,402.51; and Gift and Memorial Fund bills of \$755,603.38, for a total of \$2,741,474.80. **Motion carried unanimously**

### **Operations Committee Report**

TaDonne Neal reported that the committee agreed to table the proposed motion on the Enhanced Library Card until December in order to allow staff time to answer questions from committee members.

On behalf of the Operations Committee, TaDonne Neal moved to adopt the 2024 Holiday Closing schedule as proposed by staff. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

No report.

### **Public Affairs Committee Report**

No report.

### **Special Committee Reports**

*Friends of the Library* – Jennifer Foley reported that the next used book sale will take place on December 2 at the Advanced Learning Library with a member preview sale the previous day. The Friends continues to recruit board members.

*Library Foundation* - Director Nix reported that Kristi Oberg worked her last day for the Foundation on November 17. Hiring her replacement is still in progress: candidates have been interviewed and an offer has been extended. The end-of-year campaign is underway and the capital campaign has almost reached the halfway mark to its goal.

*Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS)* – Fred Knoblauch reported that Cindy Couch will begin serving as the WGS library liaison starting in December. The November meeting featured specialists about cattle trails in the local area and set an attendance record for the WGS.

### **Director of Libraries Report**

Director Nix reported there will be upcoming Library Board elections and a nomination committee will be formed soon.

Library staff has been speaking with USD 259 to explore the challenges schools have confronted as they roll out digital access to all students.

The contract with Smart Security will end in December. Recruitment has begun for three library resource officer positions to implement a more holistic model for building space management that will combine provision of building security with development of closer connections with patrons. This change should improve public safety not just at the Advanced Learning Library but throughout the library system.

**Announcements**

None

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be December 19, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Nix