

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Library Board of Directors
August 20, 2024.

The hybrid meeting of the Library Board of Directors was held on Tuesday August 20, 2024 at the Advanced Learning Library with the following present in person: Ms. Sarah Balderas, Ms. Michelle Garrett, Ms. Lauren Hirsh, Ms. TaDonne Neal, Ms. Brandi Newry, Mr. Kurt Oswald, Ms. Karyn Shorter, Ms. Robin Templin, Ms. Susie Ternes, and Mr. Jonathan Winkler.

Call to Order

Lauren Hirsh called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m., a quorum being present.

Introductions

Director Nix introduced new board member Brandi Newry and new Evergreen/Angelou Branch Manager Sierra Kelly.

Approval of the Agenda

Karyn Shorter moved (Templin) to approve the agenda as published. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comment

Clayton Pearson spoke on the use of bike racks at the library and how providing accessible parking for bikes can benefit customers. He also noted that cyclists prefer to park in high-visibility locations to minimize the risk of theft, and flagged a couple of areas where the loop-type racks at the ALL cannot easily be seen from within the building.

Staff Presentation

Director Nix reviewed policy ORG-001 Library Board of Directors, which lays out bylaws, governance arrangements, and responsibilities for the Board. Feedback was sought from board members as to the continued relevance of these provisions and whether changes should be considered. In the ensuing discussion, various concerns were brought up, including that the board did not lead in the recruitment of the current Director. Review of the policy will continue with a goal of identifying any needed changes.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting held on July 16, 2024 were presented. Karyn Shorter moved (Balderas) to approve the minutes as included in board packets. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Jonathan Winkler moved (Oswald) to approve the June finance report and supplemental bills in the following amounts: General Fund bills of \$842,325.10 and Grant Fund bills of \$56,470.54, for a total of \$898,470.54. **Motion carried unanimously.**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, TaDonne Neal moved (Winkler) to approve the invoice from OCLC for \$84,359.79.00. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Finance Committee Report

Did not meet.

Operations Committee Report

Committee chair TaDonne Neal reviewed a series of policy updates by staff. These included:

- REF-009 Meeting Room Facilities
- CUS-001 Customer Code of Conduct

On behalf of the Operations Committee, Ms. Neal moved to adopt the policy changes as recommended by staff. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Sarah Balderas left.

Planning & Facilities Committee Report

Director Nix reported that the groundbreaking at the Rockwell Branch went well. A further \$2.2 million has been added to the overall budget for branch renovations.

Public Affairs Committee Report

Kurt Oswald reported that the committee met and discussed upcoming fall programs.

Special Committee Reports

Friends of the Library – No report

Library Foundation – Kourtney Carson reported that work continues on the capital campaign and grant applications.

Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) – Vickie Everitt reported that the last monthly meeting set a post-Covid record with over 87 attendees. WGS memorials have brought in over \$600

worth of books into the Library collection this year.

Director of Libraries Report

Director Nix reported that work continues with LegacyWorks and Workforce Alliance to develop a business model for the café space at the Advanced Learning Library.

There has been a steady increase in the circulation of e-books, which comprised almost 60% of items checked out as of July 2024.

The Library is part of a grant with One Small Step/StoryCorps that will be effective for 18 months and focuses on civic engagement. Strategic conversations on civic engagement continue with the Kansas Leadership Center.

The city has issued a request for proposals for artwork for the branch remodels.

Following recent conversations with Hutton Construction, the timeline for the Angelou renovation has moved up and will entail a full closure between October 2024 and January 2025. Once Angelou reopens, Rockwell will close for the remodeling of its interior.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be September 17, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Nix