

Board of Trustees, Washington Public Library

February 27, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Diane Lick, who led the Pledge. Members present included: Doug Holdmeyer, Susan Wehmueller, Leanne Gisburne. Mike Coulter, Barbara Volmert, Lynn Hart and Carolyn Witt. Also in attendance was Ethan Colbert of the Missourian.

Doug moved that the agenda be approved. Motion seconded by Leanne and the motion carried. *Leanne moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Lynn. Motion carried.*

Friends of the Library Report: The Friends are sponsoring with the Library the Family Reading Night on March 3. They are donating two gift baskets. Friends' membership renewals have been coming in. They are also busy coordinating with the library on many Author events from now until June.

Library Director's Report:

Statistics and Collections: December 2022 statistics are attached. Nelson brought attention to the continuing high numbers of passport applications, which is an often overlooked (though modest) revenue stream for the library. The staff who process and are so helpful to the public in this work are to be highly commended!

Facilities: Veregy has been very helpful with communication, due to a project manager on site (Josh) to manage the entire installation. Recurring meeting every two weeks. Emails weekly. Lots of conversations happen in the library. Completed/Current work: The three RTF (Roof Top units) are installed. The first zone is nearly completed, and we hope to do a factory restart on Wednesday, March 1st.

week is a transition week from the first zone to the second zone. This will be disruptive to the library's adult readers and to the staff. This zone is scheduled to last through the month of March. The back meeting room will be used by staff to help with processing books.

During these phases, staff will be able to pull holds in areas unavailable to the public.... when it is safe. The plan is to move some high-demand portion of the collections (New Books, etc.) to serve the patrons, as we are able and have space to do so. Engineering has office space for the library to take advantage of during March.

Budget/Staffing: Budgeting for 2023-24 starts soon, when Finance is ready.

New Library rules proposed by Secretary of State Ashcroft: The proposed rules are found in HB1159. The bill has been read a first and second time. There are not current co-sponsors or scheduled hearings at this time. We are still early in the process.

Programs:

Missouri Book Festival: The committee has decided to skip 2023 and return in 2024. An expanded organizing committee has been established and Scenic will now add a significant presence to the festival. We are confident that this restructuring gives us access to staffing and financial support necessary to do a large festival such as this. Sub committees will be set up next summer.

Re-cap Programs:

Great Decisions, Wednesdays @ 1pm starting Feb 1st;
Sweet Retreats, Wed. Feb. 8th;
The Life and Times of Meyer's Grove, Feb 9th;
A History Lover's Guide to St. Louis, Feb. 16th.

Upcoming Programs:

Family Reading Night, March 3 at WMS;
I Spy with my little Eye Train Display, March 1-31;
Tim Grove, Telling History's Stories, March 7th;
Financial Planning Seminar for Seniors, March 9th;
Kick Off of Community Read, March 11th (Walking with Petey); Ed
Wheatley, Sports Memories March 16th;
Yoga with Sara (Community Read), March 22;
WPL Night at the Big Blue Observatory in New Haven, March 25th;
Franklin CO Humane Society (Community Read) March 28th.

Barb moved that the Librarian's Report be approved. Sue seconded the motion, which passed.

Unfinished Business: See HVAC above.

New Business: Carolyn reported that on May 4th there will be an event celebrating the 100-year anniversary of the City Hall building. She is on the committee and suggested that the library support this event by welcoming visitors to this event into the library. She asked that the Friends support mounting of historic pictures from the WHS in our art display space during the event and continue during the month of May (Historic Preservation Month). There was discussion of refreshments. She will attend the Friends meeting and request support.

There being no further business, Sue moved that the meeting be adjourned. Leanne seconded the motion, which carried.

Next Meeting: Mach 27, 2023