

Board of Trustees , Washington Public Library June 26, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Diane Lick, who led the Pledge. Members present included: Diane Lick, Doug Holdmeyer, Joe Holtmeier & Chad Briggs (City Council Liaisons), Lynn Hart, Barb Volmert, Leanne Gisburne, Jamie Holtmeier and Carolyn Witt. Also in attendance was Bill Miller, Jr. of the Missourian.

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

Friends of the Library Report: Lobby book sale rebounded quickly after the HVAC project completed. Friends are already boxing books for the September book sale. Boxes of books are stored in the maintenance room. While the book sales bring steady income to the Friends, this service is not just about the money. At very low prices, it allows book to circulate to those who can't afford to buy books.

Library Director's Report:

Nelson shared that this was the last meeting for Diane and Lynn. Diane has served nine years on the Board and warns that her interest will now revert to the Friends! Her service to the Library was so important during the challenges of the past nine years....years made more difficult with COVID, the HVAC project and challenges from the Secretary of State's office! Lynn contributed much from her experience in the WHS library. Both were thanked for their service.

Statistics and Collections: April and May statistics attached. The downstairs has been closed almost 6 weeks, which had the expected lowering effect on circulations. Summer reading has started strong and the readers have come back. The June 2023 circulation numbers will be similar to June 2022.

Facilities: HVAC replacement finished on schedule by the vendors to open the downstairs. Staff worked for two and half days to clean the library before it could open. The library reopened the downstairs on May 10! Nelson commended the staff for their hard work during constant change and challenge. The rotating closures of areas in the library resulted in stressful working conditions. There are still a few lingering things that had to be completed after May 10, the majority of which have been completed. The Graphix interface is in process...this is the online interface that gives the library the ability to monitor/set temperatures.

Budget/Staffing: Budgeting season has started. Kelsey Scott vacated her library clerk position. We are in the process of hiring a new library clerk.

Technology/Communications: Nelson has been mastering the use of LibraryAware. This has been a month-by-month process. We plan to initially use it for a monthly "What's Happening at the Library" Newsletter and also with Adult and Children's programming e-blasts. This will greatly expand the library's digital reach.

Programs:

Re-cap: Kickoff Event, June 2; Jon Guenther: the Arch, June 8th; David Von Drehle: The Book of Charlie; Meet the Green Crayon, June 16th; Cirque du Wiener Dog, June 21; Adult Paint night, June 27th.

Upcoming: The Circus Man, July 12th; Teen Pizza and Paint, July 19th; Gary Kremer, July 20th; End of Summer Carnival, July 26th.

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

Unfinished Business: See HVAC above.

New Business: Policy Update, Response to Secretary of State's Rules for Libraries. The policy, as reviewed by the committee (Diane, Nelson, Carolyn and Kim), was presented to the Board and Nelson discussed changes made (In yellow) to reflect new "rules". There was some discussion of the changes. Jamie asked if rather than have every minor's card "expire" and parental signature required to update, hand out copy of changes in rules and inform that continued use of a library card shows acceptance of new policy. (as per bank policy). This was universally accepted and Nelson said the new system can "blast" this out to users.

Lynn moved that the policies be accepted, seconded by Doug. Motion carried.

Diane called for election of Board officers. A slate was presented to the Board by acclamation as follows:

Carolyn: President Katie: Vice President Barb: Secretary/Treasurer

Barb motioned to accept the slate as presented, seconded by Leanne.

Motion carried.