

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WASHINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
November 23, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Witt, who led the Pledge. Members present included: Leanne Gisburne, Doug Holdmeyer, Jamie Holtmeier, Katie Schonaerts, Barbara Volmert, Sue Wehmueller, Carolyn Witt, Chad Briggs, and Joe Holtmeier. Also in attendance were Antjea Wolff of the Missourian, Mayor Doug Hagedorn, City Administrator Darren Lamb, Parks and Recreation Director Wayne Dunker, Roger Langendoerfer, Joe Adams and other members of the public.

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

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT: The Friends funded the new newspaper stand in the adult reading area. The Friends sales remain strong, and programs are in the works for 2024.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Statistics and Collections: October 2023 statistics are attached. Results are in line with last year.

Technology/Communications: Nelson reached out to NOC Technologies for an update after meeting with them last month. Nelson ordered new monitors from NOC Technologies to proceed with the upgrading of the public computers funded by the Friends of the Library. The installation date has not yet been set.

Programs:

The Missouri Book Festival with Ready Press will be the 2nd weekend in September 2024.

To promote the many events for the 2024 centennial anniversary of the library, advertising will begin in December. Many events are currently being planned including: an open house, an after-hours celebration, a reading challenge, story contest, and Yule Ball Gala.

October-November re-cap:

- The Halloween Scavenger Hunt had 150 participants.
- The Chocolate program on Oct. 24th was so popular we have asked Wanderlust to return in 2024 for chocolate making.
- Friends of the Library Author Event, by former FBI agent Katherine Schweit, "Stop the Killing" on Nov. 16th filled every seat in the meeting room.
- The Turkey Bingo on Nov. 22 was so popular that we will consider registration for next year.

Upcoming Events:

- Art of Charcuterie, Dec 5 @ 6:30 registration will be required.
- Reindeer round-up, Dec 29th

Sue moved that the director's report be accepted, seconded by Gretchen. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Nelson invited the members of the public in attendance to present their comments. Mr. Langendoerfer and Mr. Adams both spoke of their concerns for safety at the library. They inquired about people that stay at the library all day and whether there had been any issues. In addition, they asked about the rules on food and sleeping in the library. After some discussion, Carolyn proposed a committee be formed to meet and discuss a code of conduct before the January meeting. Chad recommended that a primary objective of the code would be to hold people accountable for respecting the space of the library. Darren advised that we invite the Chief of Police to attend the meeting to provide input. Joe suggested this code be posted in a visible location in the library and brought some examples of other library's codes of conduct. Carolyn emphasized how the library continues to have a good relationship with the police. Mayor Hagedorn acknowledged the importance of respecting all parties.

There will be no meeting in December as the required 10 meetings have been held in 2023.

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

NEXT MEETING: January 22, 2024