

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WASHINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
October 28, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Witt, who led the Pledge. Members present included: Carolyn Witt, Doug Holdmeyer, Jamie Holtmeier, Joette Reidy, Sue Wehmueller, Molly Maniaci, and Barbara Volmert. Also in attendance was a member of the press from the Missourian.

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

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT: The Friends of the Library will hold a special Cookbook Sale in November due to extra-large donations of cookbooks recently. The Friends are in the process of refreshing their whole organization, beginning with new leadership. They are exploring a new logo and a new marketing approach to increase their visibility.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Statistics and Collections: September statistics are attached. Circulations, door counts, and meeting room usage are similar to the previous year.

Patron Behavior: No major incidents have occurred this past month.

Technology: Access to Hoopla will be removed for Reciprocal Card holders. Hoopla is expensive, and to offer better service to the local community, Scenic Regional Library will limit access starting November 1. This won't affect anyone who lives in Washington.

Facilities: HVAC Update – The NAU air intake unit is now functional and working. Sensors are needed to help with the humidity control that ideally would be in the low 40% range.

Staffing: The city awarded salary increases to all employees based on a formula. The focus was on increasing the salary range and the cost-of-living allowance. Merit raises were not part of the formula in 2024. This is year one of a two-year approach since they were not able to incorporate the study recommendations into the budget this year.

Fiscal Year: The Fiscal Year ends September 2024. By the end of October Nelson will have the financials finalized in time for the State Library Statistical Report.

Programs:

The 100th Anniversary final celebration event will be held on Friday, November 15th. This family-friendly event will be a yuletide party at the City Auditorium where costumes are encouraged, and the glow-in-the-dark bubble bus will be featured.

Kim Brumgard and Nelson represented the Washington Public Library at the MLS Conference on September 26 through the 28 this past month. The Washington Public Library was recognized at the MLS annual ceremony for receiving the technology grant for Launch Pads.

Planning for the Smithsonian Exhibit for 2025-2026 is underway. Nelson is creating an initial program plan to be completed by December 2024. The Smithsonian Exhibit does not arrive in Washington until December 2025.

The library is a drop-off location for the Warners' Warm-up coat drive, which runs through November 3rd.

Scenic Regional, East Central College, and Washington Public Library will partner in April for the 2025 Community Read. The 2025 Community Read Book Selection committee chose "The Flower Sisters" by Michelle Collins Anderson.

Programs Recap

- Gut Health and Optimal Wellness - Tuesday, September 24, 6:30pm
- Halloween Shrinky Dinks – Tuesday, October 1st, 6:00 p.m.
- Why is Airline flying So Safe? With Richard Steckel – Thursday, October 10, 6:30 p.m.
- Painted Pumpkin Party – Wednesday, October 11th, 4:00 pm.
- Cooking For the Heart – Thursday, October 17, 6:00 p.m. Limit 15
- Edgar Allan Poe with Amy Mendard, Tuesday, October 22, 6:30 pm

Programs Upcoming

- Halloween Scavenger Hunt, Thursday, October 31, all day.
- Yule Ball Gala, Friday, November 15, 6:30 pm.
- Honoring Heartache through the Holidays, Tuesday, November 19, 6:30 pm.
- Shaw Nature Reserve w/ Director Quinn Long, Thursday, November 21, 6:30 pm.
- Turkey Bingo, Wednesday, November 27, 9:00 am and 10:00 am.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: After some discussion, Joette motioned to raise the library non-resident fee from \$25 to \$50 per year; Jaimie seconded.

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

NEXT MEETING: November 25, 2024