

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WASHINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
February 24, 2025 – 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, Molly Maniaci, and Barbara Volmert. Also in attendance was Christa Alfermann Vice President of the Friends of the Library.

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

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT: Christa from the Friends of the Library handed out the new brochures and letterhead to the board that were recently updated. The new brochures are available at both desks in the library and new membership cards have been ordered and shipped. Nelson presented the Friends with Children's Programming recommendations at the monthly meeting and the next meeting is April 2nd at 4p.m.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Statistics and Collections: Nelson presented the January 2025 statistics. Performance continues to align closely with 2024.

Patron Behavior: There has been an increase in the library usage as a warming center during the month due to the extreme cold events. Approximately 10 to 14 individuals used the library during this time as a warming shelter. One 30-day suspension of library privileges was given to a young couple for abusive language and behavior in February.

Facilities: HVAC Update – Due to the extreme cold and doors opening and closing, the HVAC sometimes struggles to maintain consistent heat. A faulty part caused the boiler to stop working twice last month. This part has been replaced. Nelson thanked the city workers for their hard work in de-icing, plowing, and shoveling the sidewalks and parking lot of the library during the weather events. Both building maintenance positions have been filled. This means the city can move forward with replacement of the broken meeting room wall and scheduling of the two water fountain replacements.

Legislature: Nelson mentioned that there are a few bills advancing in the Missouri Legislature that could affect libraries, but that no further information is available at this time.

PROGRAMS:

Programs Recap

- What is Homeopathy and How Can It Support You? - Tuesday Jan 28 6:30 p.m.
- Ken McGee, author of "Veiled"- Thursday, January 30 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Weird Pet Series – Thursday, February 13, 20 @ 4:00 p.m.
- Valentine Riddle Scavenger Hunt, February 14th

Future Programs

- Missouri Extensions will do a series of cooking programs in the Spring/Summer
- Family Reading Night – March 7, 5:30 p.m. at Washington Middle School
- Weird Pet Series – Thursdays, February 27 @ 4:00 p.m.

- Great Puzzle Race – February 25. Special Note: This is the 2nd of these programs. Same puzzle, new teams.
- Great Decisions Discussion Group, Wednesdays from Feb 26 – April 16 @ 1:00 p.m. Weather postponed this the last two Wednesdays.
- Jessi Gold, “How Do You Feel? One Doctor’s Search of Humanity in Medicine” March 13 6:30 p.m.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS: N/A

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

NEXT MEETING: March 24, 2025