



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
July 20, 2016

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20, 2016. President Nancy Marshall presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Bethany Curtis, Bob Hart, Justin Hauke, Bill Kuc, Joan Esserman, and Nicole Chaput. Absent: Trustees Elliot Graf and Andrew Rushing, and City Council Liaison Toni Hunt.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Public Agenda

Long-time resident Paul Burke addressed the Board, stating first his pleasure that we had ended our expensive contractual relationship with St. Louis County Library. He went on to say that there were now opportunities to expand programming at the library, suggesting that there were authors, experts, artists and such in the area who could present lectures or readings. While not offering any specific examples, he did say that there were many to draw from, though it might be hard work to procure their services and set up the suggested events.

Minutes of the June 15, 2016 Meeting

Ms. Curtis moved to accept the minutes as presented, Mr. Hauke seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

There was no president's report

Librarian's Report

Mr. Cooper told the Board that he would be on vacation the week of July 25-29.

Advanced Planning

There was no report from this committee.

Automation/Systems

Ms. Esserman noted that the library had added Hoopla digital download service to its offerings. She had checked it out and found there to be a wide variety of eBook offerings, though she found the interface a little confusing.

Mr. Cooper added that soon the library's Website would feature the SELF-e service, which helps aspiring authors publish their manuscripts as eBooks.

Building and Grounds

There was no report from this committee.

Finance

Ms. Esserman moved to approve the financial report as presented, Mr. Kuc seconded, and the report was approved.

Human Resource

Mr. Kuc noted that he is reviewing Mr. Cooper goals statement for FY 2016-2017, and there should be some discussion of it at next month's meeting.

Policy

There was no report from this committee.

Old Business

There was not old business.

New Business

Ms. Chaput told the Board that she had been monitoring some Webster Groves-specific discussion groups on Facebook, and from those culled a list of suggested innovations that the library might pursue, including partnering with the Historical Society, creating 'things' collections like science items and audio-visual equipment, working with We Stories to add collections and create programming that appeals to diverse audiences, having tutoring for all ages, and quite a few others. She will type up the list so library staff can look at it and think about what might be some good initiatives to pursue.

Mr. Cooper asked the trustees to consider the statistical report as it has always been presented to them at the monthly meeting. He wants to know if it can be changed to offer information in ways that is more meaningful to them, rather than simply in the format we have always done it. General discussion indicated that while the trustees recognize their duty to stay aware of trends such as circulation, number of cardholders, et cetera, it might not have to be presented on a monthly basis. Mr. Cooper will consider the question and make suggestions to the Board soon.

A committee of library staff members led by Circulation Supervisor Paige Shaw has held several meetings and made recommendations on how the library could change certain of its circulation policies and practices, making them more convenient for patrons. These include the time of checkout, fine structure, ID requirements for

patrons, and more. Mr. Hart plans to convene the Board's Policy Committee to consider the suggested revisions and make a recommendation on them.

Adjournment

Ms. Curtis moved to adjourn, Ms. Marshall seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library's Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, August 17 at 7 p.m.