



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
September 28, 2016

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 28, 2016. President Nancy Marshall presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Bill Kuc, Bob Hart, Elliot Graf, Bethany Curtis, Nicole Chaput, and City Council Liaison Greg Mueller. Absent: Trustees Joan Esserman, Justin Hauke, and Andrew Rushing.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Public Agenda

There was no public agenda.

Minutes of the August 17, 2016 Meeting

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

Correspondence

Mr. Cooper read an email from resident Mark Edwards, who was unhappy with the decision not to renew a reciprocal lending arrangement with St. Louis County Library. But since receiving the email, Mr. Cooper has communicated with Mr. Edwards, explaining the financial reasons for the decision. In response, while Mr. Edwards says he understands the decision, he still hopes there will be a focus on improving the MLC collection of eBooks, especially in the area of popular reading.

President's Report

There was no president's report

Librarian's Report

Mr. Cooper said there were ongoing discussions about whether the library should allow area groups to use the Meeting Room on Sunday. This was mostly in response to a yoga instructor who has offered to teach a class for free on Sunday afternoons.

Make a Difference Day is Saturday, October 22, and library staff will be planting a butterfly garden in the west parking lot, hoping to attract a few volunteers to help in the endeavor.

Friday, October 7 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. there will be an opening reception for the Webster Arts Small Works III display. Public is invited.

Advanced Planning

There was no report from this committee.

Automation/Systems

There was no report from this committee.

Building and Grounds

There was no report from this committee.

Finance

Ms. Chaput moved to accept the August financial report as presented, Mr. Hart seconded, and the report was approved.

Human Resource

Mr. Kuc reported that the committee had completed its review of Mr. Coopers 2016-2017 goals statement.

Mr. Cooper reported that with the retirement of Elise Fortman, long-time Business Manager for the library, we have engaged the services of a part-time accountant named Maureen McKenzie who will assume most of her duties.

Mr. Kuc asked whether with Elise's retirement, to be followed by the retirement of Jean Doelger in January, we had reached the staff reduction goals set forth a few years ago. Mr. Cooper said that was correct.

Policy

Mr. Hart said that after a review of seven recommendations by a library staff committee for revising the library's circulation policies, the Policy Committee will recommend four of them for passage:

1. Make all fines for overdue items \$0.15 per day. This reduces the highest rate of \$0.50 per day for DVDs and Blu-Rays, and raises the rate for books, magazines, etc. from \$0.10.
2. Extend the standard loan period from 2 weeks to 3 weeks.
3. Continue to allow three renewals per item checked out, thus extending the overall possible loan period from 8 weeks to 12 weeks.
4. Eliminate the \$3 processing fee for each item patrons lose and pay for.

Ms. Marshall moved to approve these changes, Mr. Kuc seconded, and the changes were approved. Mr. Cooper said he will put together a plan for implementing the changes and notifying the public of them, and will present that soon to trustees.

Regarding the other three recommendations by the staff committee, Mr. Hart said the Policy Committee still had some questions for Mr. Cooper before they could make a decision.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There has been some discussion among the MLC libraries about whether they should close on the Monday following Christmas Day and/or the Monday following New Year's Day, since both of those holidays fall on a Sunday and most City Halls will take them as their official holiday. Since the library is closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, this would mean three days closed in a row, and Mr. Cooper did not recommend it. Since the holidays fall on weekend days when many staff are off work anyway, there will be floating holidays granted to make up for them. Trustees thought this was fine, and there was no need to close the library an extra day.

Mr. Cooper reported that a library user had asked if he could plug in his electric car to charge at an outlet on our parking lot while using the library, a request he denied, mostly because the library is not set up to offer the service.

Adjournment

Mr. Kuc moved to adjourn, Ms. Chaput seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library's Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, October 19 at 7 p.m.