



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
January 18, 2017

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2017. President Nancy Marshall presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Joan Esserman, Eliot Graf, Bill Kuc, Bob Hart, Justin Hauke, and Andrew Rushing, and City Council Liaison Toni Hunt. Absent: Trustees Bethany Curtis and Nicole Chaput.

Call to Order

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

Public Agenda

There was no public agenda.

Minutes of the November 16, 2016 Meeting

Mr. Hauke moved to accept the minutes as presented, Mr. Kuc 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 said that the library has been approved by the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs as a Passport Acceptance Agency. There are still some details to take care of, such as getting in an initial supply of applications and ordering an official seal, before we begin processing applications. We will do a 'soft opening' first, hoping to let all of our staff who take applications get a few done, before we run an article in the paper letting people know.

Mr. Cooper said that the ad agency that makes commercials for SSM Healthcare will be filming a commercial at the library this Friday evening (20th). They are paying the library \$2,000 for the use of the building.

Advanced Planning

There was no report from this committee.

Automation/Systems

There was no report from this committee.

Building and Grounds

The third phase of the landscaping out front is complete except for the short sidewalk. The concrete cannot be poured until temperatures are warmer. Mr. Cooper has been speaking with the Friends about paying the invoice and reimbursing the library for their earlier payment to Furfaro Landscaping.

Finance

Mr. Rushing reviewed the financial reports for November and December 2016. He says we are still running a little over budget because December was once again a 3-payroll month. Ms. Esserman moved to accept the financial report as presented, Mr. Graf seconded, and the report was approved.

Mr. Rushing wants to work with the library's accountant to refine some of the budget reporting. He would like to see a division of projected monthly expenses that more accurately reflects actual expenditures during the year. Mr. Hauke added that while that is being done, it would be informative to see a breakdown of the delta, the amount over budget in any line.

Human Resource

There was no report from this committee.

Policy

There was no report from this committee, although Mr. Cooper did report that we have had little comment from people about the several changes to circulation policy that took place on December 5. Patrons are happy in general about longer checkout periods, and have not complained any about the new fine structure.

Old Business

There was no report from this committee.

New Business

Mr. Cooper noted that new gun laws in Missouri make it more likely than ever that people who use the library may be carrying firearms. While some libraries have been posting No Guns Allowed signs, they do not carry force of law, since libraries are not among the places, such as schools, banks, and hospitals, where guns are still not allowed. Trustees tended to agree that posting any such sign was likely not much use, and might tend to aggravate gun advocates. It was also allowed that people may already be carrying concealed weapons in the building without us knowing it.

Trustees all got a copy of the audit for FY 15-16. A discussion of the audit will be on next month's agenda, after everyone has had time to review it.

Adjournment

Ms. Esserman moved to adjourn, Mr. Kuc 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, February 15 at 7 p.m.