



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
September 19, 2018

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 19, 2018. President Nancy Marshall presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Bethany Curtis, Justin Hauke, Bob Hart, Joan Esserman, and Tess Thompson, and City Council Liaison Bud Bellomo. Absent: Trustees Elliot Graf and Andrew Rushing.

Call to Order

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

Public Agenda

There was no public agenda.

Minutes of the July 18, 2018 Meeting *(Note: There was no August meeting)*

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

Correspondence

The board heard a letter (attached) from Daniel Jackson, speaking about the naming of a school in the Webster School District for Dr. Henry Givens, and proposing the idea that H. B. Goins, one-time principal at Douglass Schools, was just as important an educator in our history.

President's Report

Ms. Marshall told the Board that trustee Nicole Chaput had submitted her resignation from the Board, citing overwhelming work and personal obligations.

Librarian's Report

Mr. Cooper was asked about the nature of a book festival that was discussed among the directors of the MLC libraries. He said that he can't really define it at this point, though he is working on it. He will report further information as it develops.

Ms. Esserman brought up the subject of student parking, which was exacerbated in the past few weeks by the closing of the YMCA lot. Jack Pirozzi, a local resident who was once on the Library Board, spoke to her; he believes that a parking strip on Orchard Avenue, directly to the west of the library, was created expressly for library parking, wondering whether signage could be created. Ms. Esserman told him that

any such signage would be the responsibility of the City and not the Library. Mr. Bellomo made note of the conversation.

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

Mr. Cooper reviewed the financial reports from July and August. Ms. Esserman moved to accept the reports, Ms. Curtis seconded, and the reports were approved.

Human Resource

Mr. Hauke read Mr. Cooper suggested goals for FY 2018-2019. Ms. Marshall moved to approve the goals, Ms. Curtis seconded, and the goals were approved.

Policy

There was no report from this committee.

Old Business

Mr. Cooper presented some research he and his staff have done on the question of changing the library's hours of service. For the most part, the plan appears workable. The main problem is that the main suggestion is to close at 8 p.m. rather than 9 p.m. from Monday through Thursday, transferring those service hours to longer hours on the weekends: but that would mean closing the Meeting Room an hour early on weekdays, and those evening hours are some of the most popular for many groups who use the room. More research needs to be done on the feasibility/affordability of having two employees work that extra hour four nights per week.

New Business

The staff Circulation Policy Committee recommends changing our policy of allowing unlimited checkouts of movies to setting a limit of 15 movies (DVD or Blu-ray) per library card. Ms. Marshall moved to accept the recommendation, Mr. Hauke seconded, and the motion passed.

Mr. Cooper passed out a draft version of the FY 17-18 Annual Report. He asked that trustees take a look at it and prepare any questions they may have for the October Board Meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Curtis moved to adjourn, Mr. Hauke seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

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