



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
November 16, 2022

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16. President Tess Thompson presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Anita Radcliffe, Sherry Taylor, Angelo Austin, Ed Scholl, Jenine Harris, Janey Worthington, and Peter Ruger. Absent: Trustee Leann Waugh and City Council Liaison Laura Arnold.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Agenda

There was no public agenda.

Minutes of the October 19, 2022 Meeting

Ms. Worthington moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Ruger seconded and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

There was no president's report.

Librarian's Report

There was no librarian's report aside from the written report.

Advanced Planning

Dr. Harris noted that Stakeholder Insights had conducted a series of four focus groups in October. Now that data collection is complete, they are working on getting reports together. We should hear from them soon, and at that time she will convene the committee to discuss the results.

Building and Grounds

There was no report from this committee.

Finance

Mr. Scholl presented the financial report from October. It was a three-payroll month, which is expensive. But all in all we are well within budget.

Ms. Worthington moved to approve the report, Dr. Harris seconded, and the financial report was approved.

Human Resources

Dr. Thompson moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Austin seconded, and the board was in closed session.

Dr. Thompson moved to re-open the meeting, Mr. Austin seconded, and the meeting was re-opened.

Mr. Austin noted that the staff holiday buffet is coming up soon, and solicited donations from trustees to purchase a ham for the staff.

Policy

Ms. Taylor said that the Policy Committee had met to write a draft response to Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft's proposed new rule regarding censorship of library materials. She had forwarded the draft to all trustees to review.

Mr. Ruger moved to approve the draft response, Ms. Worthington seconded, and the draft was approved.

Ms. Taylor will send the response to the Secretary of State. She will also send to trustees the information needed to send individual comments.

Friends Report

Ms. Worthington said the Friends will hold their annual meeting Sunday, Nov. 20, featuring Patrick Murphy. They had discussed not holding any more book sales, but are reconsidering that decision because it is a good public relations event. She urged trustees to join the Friends, if they do not currently belong.

City Hall

There was no City Hall report.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Mr. Cooper asked if anyone had suggestions or corrections to his draft annual report. Dr. Thompson noted a correction to her term of office, but aside from that, there was nothing to change. Mr. Cooper will print up the report.

Adjournment

Dr. Thompson moved to adjourn, Dr. Harris seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library's Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at 5 p.m.