



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
The Board of Trustees  
Webster Groves Public Library  
January 25, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25. President Tess Thompson presided and Library Director Tom Cooper kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Ed Scholl, Peter Ruger, Sherry Taylor, Leanne Waugh, Jenine Harris, Angelo Austin, Janey Worthington, and Anita Radcliffe, trustee-designate Mike Clay, director-designate Madison Morris, and City Council Liaison Laura Arnold.

Call to Order

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

Public Agenda

There was no public Agenda.

Minutes of the October 19, 2022 Meeting

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

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

Dr. Thompson welcomed Madison Morris, who will take over as the library's new director on February 6. She also welcomed Mike Clay, who becomes the board's newest trustee after tonight's meeting.

Librarian's Report

There was nothing to add to Mr. Cooper's written report.

Advanced Planning

Dr. Harris asked for input from the board on the report from Stakeholder Insights about their work mapping library usage and holding a series of focus groups among library users and non-users. Ms. Worthington suggested, given the length of the report, that it might be better for the Advanced Planning Committee to meet to organize the information into a more concise format. There was general agreement with that, and the Committee will meet soon.

Building and Grounds

There was no report from this committee.

### Finance

Mr. Scholl reviewed financial reports from November 2022 and December 2022. Both indicate that we are on good track budget-wise.

There is still a question about what appear to be mis-reported income figures, and Mr. Cooper will seek to clarify that once he speaks with the library's bookkeeper.

Mr. Austin moved to approve the financial report, Ms. Worthington seconded, and the report was approved.

### Human Resources

There was no report from this committee.

### Policy

There was no report from this committee.

### Friends Report

Ms. Worthington reported that the Friends have been very much interested in the library's leadership transition, and have talked about their role in making it successful.

### City Hall

Ms. Arnold said that there has been immense public input on the redesign of the pool at the City's Rec Center, a major theme of public comment being the desire for some indoor pool component. Strategic planning is moving forward. The City feels it is about 70% of the way towards resolving the problem of budget deficits, but acknowledges that that last portion will be the hardest.

### Old Business

Mr. Cooper presented a concise report on revenue the library receives through the state library. He noted that the library's Collection Development Policy already contains language close to what is needed to be compliant with the proposed rule from Secretary of State Ashcroft, and minor changes might be all that are needed; that, and putting the library's existing Request for Reconsideration of Materials form on its website.

The policy committee will meet soon to review the Collection Development Policy and talk about next steps.

### New Business

Ms. Worthington moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Ruger seconded, and the board went into closed session.

Ms. Worthington moved to reopen the meeting, Ms. Taylor seconded, and the meeting was opened.

Dr. Thompson thanked Peter Ruger for his years of service to the board, this being his last meeting. Mr. Cooper spoke of their work together during the years of the library's renovation and expansion, and of how valuable Mr. Ruger had been in drafting many of the library's policies. Mayor Arnold added the more she is involved in city government, the more she comes to appreciate the time commitment that citizens such as Mr. Ruger put into their work on boards and commissions: that people who will never know their names benefit greatly from the work they do.

Since Mr. Ruger is currently vice-president, Dr. Thompson called for nominations for a new vice-president. The nominees were Mike Clark and Anita Radcliffe. Ms. Radcliffe was elected.

#### Adjournment

Ms. Waugh moved to adjourn, Ms. Taylor seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Library's Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, February 15 at 7p.m.