



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
The Board of Trustees  
Webster Groves Public Library  
October 18, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 18th. President Anita Radcliffe presided and Library Director Madison Morris kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Sherry Taylor, Leanne Waugh, Jenine Harris, Fred Toelle, Ed Scholl, Dana Cooley, Angelo Austin and City Council Liaison Laura Arnold. Absent: Trustee Janey Worthington

Call to Order

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

Public Agenda

None

Minutes of the September 20, 2023 Meeting

Mr. Austin moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Scholl seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

President's Report

Ms. Radcliffe forwarded a survey from City Hall to members of the board.

Ms. Waugh and Ms. Radcliffe recently attended a meeting set up by the City about sunshine law and making sure that the Library Board Meetings were in compliance with the law. She stated she would be happy to send out more information about this if anyone was interested.

### Librarian's Report

Ms. Morris reiterated from her report that the Library has added diapers and period products to all of the Library bathrooms. She also shared her excitement about two new additions to the adult Library collection: Hot Reads and Kitchen Kits, which are sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### Advanced Planning

Dr. Harris stated that this committee may want to revisit the strategic plan in coming months to make sure we are on track.

### Building and Grounds

Ms. Waugh stated that Ms. Morris would be discussing a proposal for the Children's Room later in the meeting.

### Finance

Mr. Scholl stated that we finished the first quarter of the fiscal year and are currently under budget. He stated that he hopes to have a Finance Committee meeting in the next month to discuss investment options to bring to the November board meeting.

Ms. Waugh moved to approve the financial report. Dr. Harris seconded and all were in favor.

### Human Resources

Mr. Austin reported that this committee along with Ms. Morris are working through the personnel manual and will have it for the board to review in coming months.

### Policy

None.

### Friends Report

Ms. Worthington provided the following report via email:

The annual Friends Book Sale in late September was a financial success - especially the opening night when it cost \$5 to enter (entrance was free thereafter). The Friends look forward to continuing the tradition next fall.

The Friends will have their annual meeting at 2 pm Sunday, November 5 in the meeting room. It will begin with the election of officers and recognition of the

newly- formed Lockwood Society. The latter consists of patrons who have belonged to the Friends for five years or more.

This year's speaker at the annual meeting will be St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist Bill McLellan, and the Friends anticipate that he will draw a crowd. Reservations are limited to members of the Friends, with Lockwood Society members receiving early notice of the event.

### City Hall

Mayor Arnold reported that election season is about to begin. She stated that there will be at least one vacancy on the council. Applications open the first week of December with the application period closing on December 26<sup>th</sup>.

She mentioned the Destination Webster Groves Survey which is a bond issue in April. It deals with the replacement of the swimming pool (about 30 years old). The infrastructure of the pool needs to be updated. This is also an opportunity for the City to do other things with parks and rec – ADA accessible paths and playground, North Webster Groves splash pad, etc. This is a no tax increase bond.

She reported that the Charter Review Advisory Board is recommending 28 changes to the charter. These changes will be reviewed and will be sent to the ballot. There will be room for public engagement over the next 9 months

Mayor Arnold also reported that St. Louis County Council approved a freeze on property tax for homes owned by seniors over 67 and which are valued at \$550,000 or less. The Webster Groves City Council is waiting for more information about this before they talk about it more.

### Old Business

#### A. Old Business

There was more discussion about incorporating guidelines for public comments into the board policies. Ms. Morris will add the wording and the Policy Committee will meet with the intention of having a vote at the November meeting

### New Business

#### B. New Business

##### Children's Room Project

Ms. Morris presented a project proposal for the Children's Room to create more space in the area for programming and free play.

Ms. Waugh made a motion to approve the Children's Room Project proposal of \$5,500 dollars. Ms. Cooley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### Annual Report

Ms. Morris gave a recap of the Annual Report and stated that it can be found on the website for future viewing.

#### Adjournment

Ms. Waugh moved to adjourn, Dr. Harris seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:43.