



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
June 18, 2025

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Public Comment

None

Minutes of the May 21, 2025 Meeting

Dr. Harris moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Coates seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

Ms. Radcliffe forwarded Safe Streets information from the City of Webster Groves to all board members.

President's Report

Ms. Radcliffe thanked Ms. Morris and the Friends of the Library for having a booth at the Webster Art Fair on Saturday, June 7th.

Librarian's Report

Ms. Morris reported that there have been more HVAC issues which are still in the process of getting fixed. She also stated that the Summer Reading Program is off to a great start with over 400 registrations and that library events have been well attended.

Advanced Planning

None

Building and Grounds

Ms. Morris stated that there will be a future meeting to discuss HVAC issues.

Finance

Mr. Scholl reported that the Library has about \$1.31 in reserve for every \$1.00 of operating expenses. He stated that the general rule of thumb is to have about 1 to 1 and the Library should continue to abide this rule.

He stated that we are currently under budget mainly due to capital projects. He stated the Library should come in at, or under budget at the end of June.

Tax receipts are running a little bit ahead of last year. The Library is also ahead in passport income and the investment account continues to earn interest.

Mr. Scholl said that overall, he feels good about where the numbers are for the Library.

Ms. Cooley motioned to accept the financial report. Mr. Toelle seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed and the financial report was approved.

Human Resources

None

Policy

Mr. Toelle stated that the committee will be getting together to review current policies and make sure everything is up to date.

Friends Report

Ms. Taylor reported that she attended the May Friends of the Library meeting but was unable to attend the June meeting. She reported that the Friends funded 200 dollars' worth of gift cards for staff summer reading prizes and that they will be hosting their 50th Anniversary event the evening of September 18th at Eden Commons.

City Hall

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Hoopla

Ms. Morris provided information about the rising cost of Hoopla and different options for keeping this cost under control moving forward. Options include: daily price caps for all patrons, only allowing items that are within a certain price range to be checked out, or lowering the monthly number of check-outs per patron.

Ms. Morris stated that each option has pros and cons, but limiting the number of check outs per month seems to be the most straightforward option for the library and library patrons. She also stated that the pricing for hoopla is not just an issue for WGPL but for libraries across the state and the nation. As an example, she showed recent communication from both St. Louis County Library and St. Charles City-County Library about the changes they have made to Hoopla to maintain their budgets.

It was decided to change the number of check outs per month from 8 to 6. This change will go into effect on September 1, 2025.

Adjournment

Dr. Harris moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Taylor seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed and the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.