## **Missoula Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting** **Minutes**

July 23, 2025 6:00 PM   
Missoula Public Library, Blackfoot Board Room and Zoom

Present: Slaven Lee, Megan Moore, Janice Nugent, Julie Edwards, Katy Walter, Peter Donaldson, Will Klaczynski, Elizabeth Jonkel

Megan Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM

Citizen comments on anything not included on the agenda  
 Citizen Comments: None

Consent Agenda

* + Minutes – June 25, 2025
  + Statistics – June 2025
  + Claims – June 2025

Julie had some questions on funds used to purchase AI. It cost more for a trial subscription than expected. Slaven is going to ask about the cost and whether it can be cancelled.

Megan had some questions about a street closure for Project Community Connect. That cost was reimbursed by the Friends.

Citizen Comments: None.   
  
Approved.

Director’s Report

* + IndigiPalooza – Indigenous Arts and Storytelling Festival. Starting Friday August 1st. This event is made possible with the support of the Missoula Public Library Foundation, Sandra Roe, the Henry Family Foundation, the Montana Historical Society, the Potlatch Fund, and many other generous community members. Joy Harjo is the keynote. Chris LaTray is cocreating it with MPL (Selya), and Chickadee Community Services. Trustees are invited to lunch on Saturday at Headwaters.
  + DNA Climber - The Tule Tipi installation is delayed because the installer is dealing with a personal emergency. The initiation of litigation by Missoula County on behalf of the library against Process Curiosity is ongoing.
  + Safety - Slaven received industrial-strength sharps containers funded by the County Risk & Benefits Department. The previous ones were being vandalized and were not adequate for our needs.
  + Safety - The Safe Environment Committee reviewed the results of the staff survey on Safety and discussed ways to help staff become more comfortable with day-to-day interactions (shadowing Safety staff, roleplaying exercises at staff meetings) as well as physical changes in the building (relocating Internet computers, installing safety mirrors).
  + Social worker - Slaven applied to get a social worker in the library. Pending final approval from the County Commissioners in September, MPL has been recommended for funding of a full-time licensed social worker. If awarded, MPL will receive $89,990 for salary, benefits, continuing education, and a technology allowance. The grant is the Mental Health Fund through the County Commissioner’s office.
  + International conference - TheKorean Library Association's National Library Conference in October, the largest professional library gathering in Korea. Invited as a guest speaker for a session titled “Climate and Environment Library in Action: Space, Operations, and Technology.” The organizers are paying for all travel expenses.
  + Union negotiations - All job grades get a 2% increase. Everyone steps up one grade in the matrix. There were 8 more hours of personal leave awarded a year. Agreed to send library staff to the annual union conference on work time.
  + Facilities administrator position – Great candidates. Reclassified to get more pay. Should be making a decision soon.
  + Next meeting we will discuss installing a Narcan vending machine proposed by Missoula Drug Safety Coalition, Dose of Hope Project, and Recovery Friendly Montana.

Janice had a question about the day use lockers. There will be 20 lockers on the first floor where the old teen area used to be. Various sizes with a digital lock.

Citizen Comments: None

New Business

* + Strategic Plan – Slaven is working to show what progress we’ve made on strategic priorities in preparation for the mill levy campaign.

Action: Slaven will put the updates on the strategic priorities on the agenda next month so the board can see what the library is working on.

* + Personnel Policy Update – The board commended the writing team for great work in drafting the policy. The board had a few questions that Slaven and EJ answered. The board approved the policy pending changes suggested in the comments of the document.

Citizens Comments: None

### Unfinished Business

* + Mill Campaign – No updates right now. Janice asked if we got approval from the County Commissioners to move forward. They have to approve it, Slaven mentioned it at their meeting today. We don’t need approval yet but will get it when we reach that point process.
  + Program Attendance – Julie attended the Nature Journaling Class sponsored by the Foundation. There were only a few people, but we all got specialized help. It was a great program that really highlighted the library’s commitment to place. Janice and three members of the Missoula Public Library Watercolor Collaborative had a nice meeting with Xavier. Robert is no longer teaching classes, but the students continue to lead. If no one is available to teach the group will have free painting time.

Citizen Comments: None

**Next meeting will take place at the Missoula Public Library and online: August 27, 2025.**

Megan adjourned the meeting at 6:39 PM

Respectfully submitted by:

Slaven Lee, Director Date

Julie Edwards, Co-Chair of the Trustees Date