Missoula Public Library

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

**August 24, 2022**

**12:30**

**Seeley Lake Library & ZOOM online meeting**

# Citizen comments are very important to the Library Trustees. Policy states that public comment is limited to three minutes on each agenda item or three minutes at the beginning of the meeting on items not on the agenda.

# ORDER The meeting was called to order at 12:30 by Chair, Margaret Wafstet

**ROLL CALL** Members present were: Forrest Boughner, Randi Tanglen, Margaret Wafstet, Carol Wolfe, and Slaven Lee.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Carrie Benton

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON ANYTHING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA –** Margaret asked for a Claims clarification regarding the Montana Transfer Co and the Kone charges. MPL has a storage container full of extra building materials, like the concrete floor tiles, which was located at the Records Dept. They needed space, so they asked that we move it to Roads. It was too heavy to move without unloading, so MPL had to pay for both unloading and moving.

Kone charged MPL for a service call. They have not made the necessary repairs to make the elevator governor less sensitive. Margaret wondered about the signage informing the public they would be fined for harming elevator operations. Kone did not follow service call procedures, so staff did not get to talk to the patrons stuck in the elevator. MPL will try to get Kone to refund charges. Consent agenda was approved.

MINUTES – July 27 22,2022

CLAIMS – July, 2022

STATISTICS **–** July, 2022

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Seeley Lake Library update** – Carrie Benton shared that there has been an increase in patrons. Summer Learning was a big success. They also hosted Lawyers in Libraries in May; Montana Legal Services facilitated discussions about the history of the U.S. Constitution. Seeley Lake Library has been selected as a Democracy Project site and Carrie is considering tying it in with the school’s Government Class.

**Budget update** - Commissioners' Public Meeting - August 25, 2022 – prelim budget will be shared for public comment. September 8 at 2:00 the final budget will be presented.

**Negotiations 2022** – MPL leadership has met with the Union 3 times. They are voting on the most recent proposal. The library has two mill types, a fixed dollar mill which does not increase year to year and floating mills which do increase. This year the mill value increased from approx. 276,000 to 281,000 which is a little less than 2%. Next year we should see a slightly larger increase.

**Strategic Planning** – Internal Scan: Gordy Pace has met with almost all staff (in their workgroups), Board advocates, AUOR partners, and is planning to meet with reps from the Foundation and Friends.

Stakeholder Engagement: a team of six staff have been interviewing stakeholders and they have been going really well. Some examples of orgs affiliated with interviewees: MCPS Board, UM Disability Equity Office, Home Resource, youth group from EmPower MT, YWCA, POV, All Nations, Missoula Aging Services, Opportunity Resource, International Rescue Committee, Freeverse, Montana Racial Equity Project.

Assessment Team: collecting and analyzing census data, info gathered for Capital Campaign, and other data. Also will look at Stakeholder Engagement info.

**MLA Awards** – MPL was well represented during the Tri Conference and received the following awards.

MLA Library Champion Award: Barbara Theroux, Friends President – for outstanding service in support of library interests across the state of Montana but are not formal members of the library community.

Public Library Program of the Year: Makerspace (not possible without Ira, Joshua, Allen, and Ed) - project, program, or innovation run by a non-school library which has a measurable impact to build community relationships and expand current library practice.

Outstanding Support Staff: Selya Avila – in recognition of outstanding service to the library profession and excellence in job performance.

Honorary Life Membership: Honore Bray – for outstanding contribution to librarianship and outstanding service to library interests.

Citizens Comments:

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Strategic Planning** – Gordy Pace met with Forrest and Randi, Strategic Planning Board Advocates. Randi talked with Gordy again to share Humanities Montana’s Strategic Screen process. Randi noted that she is impressed with Gordy and his process and that the Advocates role is to stay up to date on the process. It was recommended that the Trustees participate in focus group that includes previous members. The group decided to do an email survey instead.

**Director’s Performance Review** –

The group thanked Megan Moore for her work on the online survey. The survey had a 44% response rate which is quite good. The Trustees plan to do a formal evaluation during the September meeting, which will include an Executive Session for discussion, then an open discussion during the regular meeting.

Citizens Comments:

**NEW BUSINESS**

**WOW Bus** –

Margaret discussed the history of the WOW bus, including how often it needed repairs. Slaven requested a vote on selling the bus and a separate vote on working with Sales Consultant, Michael Swendrowski of Specialty Vehicle Services, to sell the bus. Forrest made a motion to sell, Randi seconded. Randi made a motion to work with SVS, Carol seconded. Motions carried.

**The People’s Balcony celebration in honor of Honore Bray and Terry & Patt Payne** – The Trustees will organize a party in October. It was discussed that Slaven and Margaret would emcee. Margaret and Randi will work on planning.

Citizens Comments:

September meeting: September 28, 2022 at 6:00 at MPL in the Blackfoot Board Room and ZOOM online

# ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted by:

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Slaven Lee, Director Date

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Margaret Wafstet, Chair of the Trustees Date