Missoula Public Library

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

**September 28, 2022**

**6:00**

**MPL Blackfoot Board Room & 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 6:00 by Chair, Margaret Wafstet

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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

None

**CONSENT AGENDA –** Margaret pointed out a discrepancy in computer usage stats where numbers needed flipped around. Margaret also mentioned that the Board of Trustees should discuss the $5,000 IFLA award money. Slaven said it was designated for community engagement and the strategic plan would help guide the spending. Lisa moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Forrest seconded. Consent agenda approved.

MINUTES – August 24,2022

CLAIMS – August 2022

STATISTICS **–** August 2022

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Strategic Planning update** – Synthesizing the staff engagement information along with community engagement and existing data will take place in October. AUOR staff, Friends, Foundation members, and the Trustees were also included in data gathering. MPL posted on online survey and received 189 responses from the public.

The next step in the process is to classify the information we have gathered so far into themes or topic areas. These themes will eventually inform the development of our strategic plan. The themes will also serve as a living document to continuously reference and update as MPL aligns operations, policies, services, and programs to community priorities.

**DNA Climber** – Process Curiosity is looking for a subcontractor to address some of the outstanding safety concerns, although they did not concede to fixing all of the issues. Slaven continues to work closely with County Attorneys and Holly Truitt and Amanda Duley to complete the project.

**Afterhours Events** – Slaven is revisiting the rate structure to simplify it and make it consistent. Even though there has been no marketing, we have been inundated with requests and are filling them as possible. Selya Avila and Slaven are the current contacts, which includes answering emails, showing the space, and other details. It is clear that a dedicated staff person is needed to meet demand.

**Food & Drink and Sleeping Policy** – Slaven mentioned that she would like the Trustees to consider adjusting these policies to create a more welcoming environment and reflect current practices. She will share a summary of proposed changes for a vote next meeting. Forrest asked that Slaven check with County Attorney Brian West about the sleeping policy; she already had. Slaven and Brian discussed that as the policy is written now, a patron could be trespassed for sleeping which is extreme. If “no sleeping” is removed from the policy, staff will continue wellness checks and patrons will be asked to leave based on disruptive behavior. Regarding Food & Drink, Slaven asked the Trustees to consider less restrictive rules and said that staff receive frustrated comments about how unrealistic the current policy is. Forrest asked that Slaven check with Trapper Peak regarding proposed changes.

Citizens Comments:

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Director’s Performance Review** –

The results of Slaven’s review were discussed in an Executive Session. Comments from staff, Trustees, and Slaven’s self-evaluation were shared. Lisa plans to send an update to staff.

Citizens Comments:

**NEW BUSINESS**

**All Boards Meeting** –

Slaven proposed that the Trustees, Library Foundation, and Friends of the Library meet for an all boards meeting in 2023. Margaret asked that it take place outside of the Board’s usual meeting time. Slaven will schedule. Motion was approved.

**Possible Op Ed –** The group agreed to submit an op-ed about the power of bond votes and thanking the Missoula community for support. Randi voted to approve; Carol seconded. Motion carried.

**The People’s Terrace celebration in honor of Honore Bray and Terry & Patt Payne** – Randi and Margaret organized a party, which will include cupcakes and a short program on Tuesday, October 11 at 5pm.

**2023 Closed Dates –** Slaven submitted County closed dates for 2023. Lisa voted to approve; Forrest seconded. Motion carried. She also asked that the Trustees consider observing the Juneteenth Federal holiday in accordance of promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion. Forrest asked that she look into any implications or potential legal issues with choosing to observe.

Citizens Comments:

October meeting: October 26, 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