

Missoula Public Library
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
September 25, 2024

6:00 pm

Missoula Public Library, Blackfeet 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 6:01 by Chair Megan Moore.

ROLL CALL Peter Donaldson, Julie Edwards, Megan Moore, Janice Nugent, Katy Walter

OTHERS PRESENT: Slaven Lee

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON ANYTHING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

None.

1. CONSENT AGENDA - Approved. Julie moved to approve, Peter seconded.

Minutes – August 28, 2024

Claims – August 2024

Statistics – August 2024

Discussion: Megan had two questions on service agreements and programs. Megan asked about the Staff Engagement and Recognition Committee. Slaven is using the Surgeon General's wellbeing framework to help support staff wellbeing. This committee works to increase staff engagement. Sustainability and Wellness had Partnership coming for drop in services and they have their community drop in hours weekly.

Citizen Comments: None

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All participants with Comments may present oral or written statements. Due to limited time, the Board chair reserves the right to set reasonable time limits for public input on each topic. Normally, a person will be limited to three minutes per agenda item. Written comments should be submitted to the Library Director at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Please call Slaven Lee at (406) 541-8864 or write to MPL, 455 East Main, Missoula MT 59802 to make your request known.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Short overview of the door shattering. We had been waiting on replacement parts since July and were under the impression that the door was safe.

Discussion: Discussion of safety reports in board meetings. Only a slight increase in medical emergencies, intoxication has increased, more bathing in the building, unattended belongings, more unattended dogs. Slaven is going to meet with Mayor Davis to ask about funding for day-use lockers. Julie asked that Slaven communicate back to staff from the board that we see the work they're doing and recognize the stress of working in a library and that we appreciate their work. Peter asked about tools that can help get more information about staff perceptions of library work.

Tamarack Federation is our regional cooperative that represents libraries in our region. There is regional training and a Federation meeting once a year. The next meeting is 10/17 at 6pm and Megan is slated to go.

The book budget was cut to pay for a deficit that Slaven wasn't aware of. Slaven spoke with the county and discovered it was a spreadsheet mistake. Funds are secured but they have to go through a budget amendment process with the County Commission. Slaven will let the board know when the amendment discussion is scheduled.

Citizen Comments: None

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trustee Program Attendance Update

Discussion: Megan attended the garden for wildlife program put on by an AmeriCorp member. Focused on giving a report on their time as the AmeriCorp member rather than a program on how to build a native garden. Small event but interesting. The library got a shout out in the CASA Missoula newsletter of all the great things that can happen at

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the library.

Janice went to the watercolor class and complemented Robert and his process. The class is still sad that Robert is only available twice a month and Janice said she would bring those feelings to the board and talk with Xavier about ways to bring in some teachers. Slaven recommends assigning a spokesperson to talk with Xavier and Amanda to coordinate time and messaging.

Job Shadowing Reflection

Discussion: Janice and Katy job shadowed. Katy shadowed on a Saturday and had a great day, it was well organized and she liked the weekend energy. There were a few security things that were handled quickly and well. Everyone was very helpful. Megan asked what department Katy work work in - Katy liked the energy of the first floor and the connections made there.

Janice learned so much and met with many staff members and learned about county archives. A staff member on the second floor talked about how much she loved her job working with the young adult collection. Janice was really complementary of library staff.

Citizen Comments: None

4. NEW BUSINESS

Library Social Worker

Discussion: Julie asked about the possibility of getting a social worker intern or social worker on staff. Peter is working in the MSW program about how a community institution could advocate for having a social work intern. Peter suggests that starting with a practicum student would help demonstrate value and need. Slaven will share a report with Peter written by an MSW intern when the building opened. Slaven is meeting Theresa Williams on Monday to talk more about this as well.

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Action Item: Peter and Slaven will coordinate to talk about this.

Citizen Comments: None

5. SHARED TRAINING

Trustee Orientation Videos

Discussion: Questions about the board's responsibility to form the budget and make an annual report to the county.

Action Item: Megan will email Cara Orban to clarify the board's responsibility.

Action Item: Slaven will add this to the agenda next month.

The board will finish discussing the entirety of *Palaces for the People* at the next meeting.

Citizen Comments: None

DNA Climber

Discussion: Per legal advice we do not need to go into executive session. We have a proposal for DNA climber repairs. We will contract with Daniel's Wood Land to repair the process and to continue to work with insurance to get funds for repairs. There are multiple options for repair. Slaven will continue to work with the private legal firm, county legal firm, county representatives and DWL to make repairs.

Citizen Comments: None


Adjourned at 7:05pm.

**Next meeting will take place at the Missoula Public Library and online:
October 23**

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Respectfully submitted by:

 Slaven Lee, Director	Date September 26, 2024
Julie Edwards, Co-Chair of the Trustees	Date

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