

Missoula Public Library
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2024
6:00 pm
Missoula Public Library, Art Box & 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 Megan Moore.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Slaven Lee, Kayla Whitaker, Will Klaczynski

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON ANYTHING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

None.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes – November 20, 2024

Claims – November 2024

Statistics – November 2024

Discussion: Typo in Nov minutes. Julie will fix. Megan had an expense question on equipment repair and maintenance.

Action item: Slaven will check the spending in equipment repair and maintenance to elaborate on spending.

Computer statistics are zero because the numbers aren't in yet. We have permission to spend the book budget from Chris Lounsbury. Megan had a question about what the mail machine lease is.

Action item: Slaven will check if we're leasing the hardware or software for the mail machine.

Missoula Public Library makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. Persons needing assistance should provide advanced notice to allow adequate time to make needed arrangements.

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.

Consent agenda approved.

Citizen Comments: None

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Discussion: Process Curiosity came to take photos of the DNA climber before the changes are made. Daniel's Woodland will be here in January to install new elements and make repairs. BrownKnows will install the tule tipi in the children's area that grantees co-created with tribal knowledge-keepers and Native youth. Megan asked about alerting people to the construction. As soon as we have dates the library will alert the public of the noise.

Winter Warming Space discussion from November. A few clarifications regarding our discussion last month. The discussion was prompted by the Homelessness Providers group and is not about the library acting as a shelter. As we research and explore, the proposal will likely position the library to act as a warming space, which means no beds or bedding would be used, there would only be access to L1, and strict temperature guidelines would be in place (one example could be if it is under 5 degrees the library could open overnight for people to come inside). The Library Trustees agree that there should be MOUs in place with community partners to staff the Warming Space if this idea were approved at some point. MPL would also work with the City to get resources for cleaning, security, etc. as possible. It is not likely we would be ready in 2025 if approved. The goal is to prevent people from dying because of cold weather, not to act as a sleeping shelter/facility.

Janice asked about signage on the children's floor that the bathrooms are for kids and their caretakers. Slaven pointed out that many libraries try to not restrict public spaces or discriminate access to bathrooms based on age or family status.

Former teen area looks great and people are using it. Patrons are learning where to find things in the new teen area. Slaven, Karl, and MSR are working on wayfinding to help people find the space. There

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will be an art frame tv to display rotating teen art and working on group projects. The Foundation is contributing to fund this.

Based on discussions with Labor Management Committee and union leadership, management is working through job descriptions to ensure they reflect job realities in the new building. Working with county HR and union leaders. Hope to finish first round by the end of February.

Slaven worked at the Resource Access Day food table and greeting area and attended an Equity Coaching workshop as the Food Bank Board chair; the trainer was highly complementary of the library.

Slaven is collaborating with AUOR Executive Leaders to write a journal article for the Journal of Museum Education.
Citizen Comments: None.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trustee Program Attendance Update

Discussion: Katy saw the Bookmobile at Holidays at Higgins and was impressed. Janice went to the winter celebration and art fair. She also noted that she was at a meeting where people mentioned how they love the library.

Jan Brett Reading

Jan Brett reading had 270 people and was very well received. Slaven credited Xavier and Kayla for their excellent planning.

Social Worker Practicum

Peter offered to have a practicum student here in the Spring. There is a student who might be interested and available. There are some questions about whether the Library is prepared to begin hosting this early. Slaven would take this on rather than handing it to Amanda since this is unexpected.

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Action Item: Slaven will email Theresa Williams tomorrow and see if she is willing to take on supervision.

Board Policy Manual

Alex gave a quick update. This is still underway and Alex and Julie will meet to talk about which parts of the main policy need to be in the board policy.

Citizen Comments: None

4. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

5. SHARED TRAINING

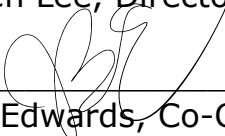
No board training this month since we had a December meeting.

Action Item: Slaven will send the director review that the Food Bank is using to inform our review of her in April.

Adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Next meeting will take place at the Missoula Public Library and online: January 22, 2024.

Respectfully submitted by:

Slaven Lee, Director	Date
	December 19, 2024
Julie Edwards, Co-Chair of the Trustees	Date

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