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

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

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

Excused: Alex Beal

Megan Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

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

Consent Agenda

* + Minutes – March 26, 2025
  + Claims – March 2025
  + Statistics – March

Citizen Comments: None

Director’s Report

* + Safe environment – suspected overdose, staff acted quickly, efficiently and handled it well. The person was revived and taken out of the building by medical professionals. There have been other safety issues like patrons shouting at staff, theft, intoxication.
  + DNA climber – half the rubber tiles arrived. Any day now the climber will be ready and open.
  + The library was approached by Missoula Redevelopment Agency about the North MRL Triangle development. There is interest in including a library branch on location.
  + Slaven will present “Designing for Collective Impact: Missoula Public Library and All Under One Roof” at ALA Core Forum in Denver. She is co-presenting with Alex Sobin, spectrUM Director, and Traci Lesneski, MSR.

### New Business

* + Staff Training Day – each year the board votes to close the library for a full day of staff training. Slaven is working to find a trainer and will bring that forward when a date is settled.
  + Hot Spot Funding – This comes from the state library. It is about $30-40K to circulate ~20 hot spots. There is a pretty good chance that the state library won’t be able to fund them. Slaven wants to present to the county commissioners so they are aware of services we may lose. The board had lots of questions about how to deal with loss, and concern about loss
  + Intellectual Freedom Statement – Julie has updated the statement to focus on the First Amendment right to read. Janice recommends spelling out the BIPOC acronym. We will vote on this language next month.
  + Janice also noted that Board meetings should be put on the Library events calendar so more people know about them.

Citizens Comments: None

### Board Shared Training – Intellectual Freedom

* + This was a great refresher of a past video on intellectual freedom. Good reminder for what it means to have access to information, balance versus representation, being informed as a board.

Citizen Comments: None

### Unfinished Business

* + Program Attendance – Julie attended Project Community Connect and it was amazing. There were 400 people who attended for all kinds of services. She complimented Selya, Slaven, and all the staff for putting on an incredible event.
  + Janice complimented the Artists for Opportunity show. It is an important message to show that people with disabilities are active and incredible artists.
  + Executive Director Evaluation – Megan went over the interview and survey responses. Survey and interview response is clear that Slaven is doing a phenomenal job.

**Action Item: Slaven will talk to HR to see if there is any formal paperwork that needs to be signed.**

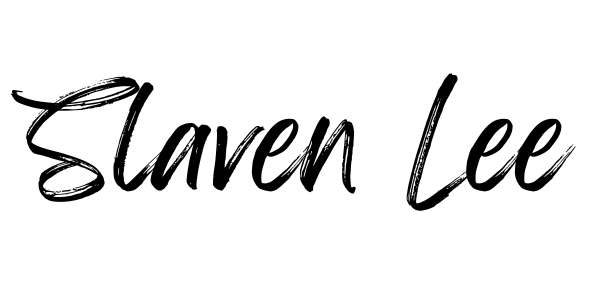
* + Trespass Appeal – A patron had their shoes off on floor and staff asked them to put shoes on. The patron refused and was argumentative. Multiple staff became involved. The patron acknowledged that she did touch one of the staff people with her finger and body. This has not happened before with this patron.

Citizens Comments: Matthew Elison commented on behalf the patron’s character in the positive, noting that the patron has a great relationship with her family and other parents – and the impact the library has had on their family. Megan noted that we are not trying to punishing anyone, but trying to keep the library safe for everyone.

The board went into executive session at 7:06 pm.

**Next meeting will take place at the Missoula Public Library and online: May 28, 2025.**

Megan adjourned the meeting at 7:24 pm.  
  
Respectfully submitted by:

Slaven Lee, Director  Date: 4/24/25

Julie B Edwards

Julie Edwards, Co-Chair of the Trustees Date 4/29/25