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

January 28, 2026, 6:00 PM   
Blackfoot Meeting Room and Zoom

Present: Susette Jensen, Desiree Funston, Peter Donaldson, Slaven Lee, Alex Beal, Janet Nugent, Megan Moore, Jon Tweeten, Will Klacynzski, Dory Athey, Elizabeth Jonkel, Chris Lounsbury, Karl Olsen, Barbara Theroux, Robin Turner, Celinda Lake

Megan Moore, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Citizen comments on anything not included on the agenda

Citizen Comments: None

Consent Agenda

* + Minutes – December 17, 2025
  + Statistics – December 2025
  + Claims – December 2025

Citizen Comments: None  
  
Approved

Director’s Report

* + Virginia has noticed that agencies are making housing referrals to the social work team instead of handling them. Talking to providers about this and planning to present at a City Council Committee meeting.
  + Slaven was selected to join the Humanities Montana Board of Directors.
  + Slaven updated documents to reflect MPL’S accomplishments and goals since the plan was adopted in May 2023. Should be posted to the website soon.
  + Slaven and Karl co-led tour for Whitefish Credit Union staff. The Foundation received $25,000 from Clearwater Credit Union.
  + Slaven and Selya co-planned annual staff appreciation party.
  + Slaven has applied for Crisis Diversion Grant and researched other opportunities for continued funding the social work position. Asked the board to send any recommendations for funding.

New Business

* + No new business.

### Unfinished Business

* Lake Research – Mill Levy Polling Presentation. Celinda Lake presented on their polling. Based on the polling there needs to be a “major education campaign”. The detailed presentation showed that people love the library (particularly the staff, story time, and the bookmoblie) but are also tax weary. The initiative would not pass without an educational campaign or long term education initiative. The Foundation would like to be a partner, but there isn’t money for this initiative in 2026. The board is comfortable with an organic campaign with the information we have but is not comfortable moving forward with a mill levy in 2026. The board will postpone the ballot initiative and consider in 2028 and support ongoing education.
* Approve Policy Manual. Elizabeth suggests adding future language about public use of private space in the library. Elizabeth pointed out that the personnel policy is not on the website. Julie noted that the policies on the webpage no longer match what’s in the policy document. Policy was approved by the board, pending removal of last four paragraphs in Appendix C and dropping the library card age from 15 to 12.

Citizen Comments: None

Action Item: Elizabeth will work on updating the webpage so that it matches the policy.

Action Item: Slaven will get copies of the personnel and collection development policies to Elizabeth to put online.

### Shared Training

* Library Boards and Advocay webinar.

**Next meeting will take place at the Missoula Public Library and online: February 25, 2026 at 6pm.**

Megan adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Slaven Lee, Director Date

Julie Edwards, Co-Chair of the Trustees Date