

KIRKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

November 16, 2022

Kirkwood Public Library Meeting Room, 140 E Jefferson Ave

Board Attendance: Clark, Harms, McLaughlin, McKee, Pitt Kaplan, Price, Reyes-Jones, Smith, Wolshock

Board Absent: None

Staff Attendance: Christa Van Herreweghe, Lisa Henry, Chelsea Bedley

Guests: City Council Liaison Liz Gibbons

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Clark at 5:00 p.m.

Business from the audience –

Public Comments: None

Gibbons reported there will be a tribute to Mel Bay on December first, Money Magazine picked Kirkwood as the 36th best place to live in the country, city staff are working on plans to narrow Kirkwood Road.

Minutes: Price made a motion to approve the minutes of October 19th, Smith seconded and the vote to approve passed, with one abstention (McKee).

Staff Presentation: Bedley submitted a request for a staff endowment grant titled Middle School Connection: Author Visit with Kelly Yang, to fund two virtual visits with her at Nipher and North Kirkwood Middle Schools, as well as for purchasing extra copies of her books for their libraries. The total amount requested is \$5,400.

Librarian's Report – Van Herreweghe reported:

- Librarians across the state are outraged over the Secretary of State's proposed rule, which goes against the fundamental professional ethics and beliefs of librarians. What a child reads is between the child and the parent, not the Secretary of State.
- St. Louis County and St. Charles City County among others have put statements regarding the rule on their websites.
- The MLC is looking at open source options for an integrated library system and are trying to get a handle on real costs. Valley Park's new director attended the meeting.
- Mel Lambert's bicentennial grant was selected to be featured on the Institute of Museum and Library Services' website. The Library was awarded \$15,000 for new AWE computers for the children's room and for RFID equipment. The new people counter system is in place.
- Tomorrow the Library is hosting a webinar about the energy.gov "portfolio manager," a tool to track energy usage.

- A representative from Safe Place presented to managers a refresher on their services and how to best serve any youth who come here for help.
- Reminder to sign up for the Bobby Bostick event, so far there are 183 RSVPs.
- Winter Reading kicks off on Saturday, with a theme of “Fire Up Your Imagination” complete with a dragon on the lobby bookdrop. Youth Services is working on the summer reading grant.
- The One Author One Kirkwood 2023 author is Morgan Talty (*Night of the Living Rez* is a Time Must Read of 2022 and shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal of Excellence). Mel and Jigisha Patel led the work in picking the author and planning the events.

Trustees’ Reports – None.

President’s Report – No report.

Committee Reports –

Finance: McKee made a motion to approve the finance committee minutes of October 18th, Wolshock seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the committee members. Reyes-Jones reported the board would approve the audit tonight and then it will be sent to the State Auditor. Henry reported the shop continues to do well and has already made 50% of its budget, before the holiday shopping kicks in. The Library received over \$62,000 in grants from the state library, including the final summer reading payment, technology, the storywalk and home borrowing grants. Maintenance reserves were used to make the final payment on the HVAC upgrade and higher than usual regular maintenance costs included light replacements, locks rekeyed and the front door push button replacement. The audit was paid for, and professional services included third quarter tax preparation. Grant funding used included storywalk preparation work and Xbox and Shotbox endowment grant purchases.

Building and Grounds: Reyes-Jones reported Bill Riggs has provided an updated quote, taking out some of the extras and getting closer to the original budget. The finance and building and grounds committees will meet soon to discuss.

Personnel: No report.

Development: Smith reported the endowment fund increased last month by over \$50,000 putting it at 1.49 million. The annual appeal letter has gone out, with \$6,640 already collected. Trustees are encouraged to donate what they can.

Board Operations: McLaughlin reminded trustees to let Van Herreweghe know when they will be attending an event at the Library, so they can be introduced.

Unfinished Business –

Approve FY 2022 Audit– Reyes-Jones made a motion to approve the audit as presented, Wolshock seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the trustees.

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Approve Bylaws Update – McLaughlin made a motion to approve the update, Wolshock seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the trustees in attendance.

New Business –

Resolution Concerning 15 CSR 30-200.015 – Clark discussed the resolution, which had been requested by MPLD. One of the concerns with the rule is undefined terms. The resolution would support librarians and acknowledge that the state should not be telling parents what their kids can and cannot read. Price made a motion to approve the resolution as written and to submit it to the Secretary of State during the comment period. Smith seconded and the vote to approve the resolution was unanimous by the trustees.

Approve Staff Endowment Grant – McKee made a motion to approve Bedley's request for \$5,400 for the Author Visits with Kelly Yang, Smith seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the trustees.

December Meeting – Clark cancelled the December meeting.

A motion was made by Clark and seconded by McLaughlin to adjourn the regular board meeting at 6:07 pm, which passed by unanimous vote of the Trustees in attendance.

The next regular board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 18 at **5:00** pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Henry, Director of Operations