

OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES



Thursday, June 17, 2021 @ 5:00 P.M.

W. Dale Clark Main Library – 215 South 15th Street

CALL TO ORDER

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at the W. Dale Clark Main Library, 215 South 15th Street (Omaha). President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M.

Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary, took the Roll Call:

PRESENT: John Barrett
Keegan Korf, Vice-President
Adrian Suarez-Delgado
Jesse Sullivan
Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer
Kristin Williams
Mike Kennedy, President
Laura Marlane, Executive Director, Omaha Public Library (Non-voting)

ABSENT ENTIRE MEETING: Keith Lutz
Michael Alley

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION – NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

President Kennedy stated that the meeting is held in accordance with the [Nebraska Open Meetings Act](#), a copy of which is available on the table. The Library certified [publication](#) of the meeting in the Daily Record, the Official Newspaper of the City of Omaha, on June 11, 2021.

ACTION ITEMS

President Kennedy stated that any person who has been invited to speak or has requested to speak before the Trustees is requested to be brief and to limit his or her comments to five minutes or less, after identifying themselves by name and address for public record. When more than one person wishes to address the Trustees on a Consent Agenda item or Resolution, the proponents will be invited to speak first, followed by the opponents. The proponents will be given a brief period for rebuttal of any new information presented during the opponent's presentation, after which public comments will be concluded. Trustees will ask any questions at the conclusion of any public comments, prior to voting. The President, or presiding officer, may use reasonable discretion to limit or extend a speaker's time to avoid redundancy, to assure a thorough public discussion on matters before the Board, and to end discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

President Kennedy stated that any Trustee may remove any item from the Consent Agenda to be addressed by the Board immediately following. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board. Public comment and Board approval is today.

3. **[Approval of minutes – April 15, 2021](#)** (*Over from 5/20/2021*)

President Kennedy opened the public comment period on the Consent Agenda.

No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Korf, that the Consent Agenda (Agenda Item 3 – Approval of minutes – April 15, 2021) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

Abstain: Williams

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

RESOLUTION

President Kennedy stated that public comment and Board approval is today.

4. **Res. 2021-05 Approval of Board officers**

President Kennedy opened the public comment period on Agenda Item 4.

No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

MOTION by Suarez-Delgado, SECOND by Williams, that Agenda Item 4 (Res. 2021-05 Approval of Board officers) be approved (specifically President – Michael Kennedy; Vice-President – Keegan Korf; and Secretary-Treasurer – Jen Rae Wang).

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, Williams, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. **Finance Committee** – Korf (Chair), Kennedy, Sullivan

None.

6. **Facilities Committee** – Wang (Chair), Alley, Lutz

None.

7. **Community Engagement Committee** – Suarez-Delgado (Chair), Barrett, Williams

None.

REPORTS

8. **Friends of Omaha Public Library** – Brian Overton (President)

None.

President Kennedy hopes to have a representative of the Friends of Omaha Public Library begin sending monthly reports to the Board again soon.

9. **Omaha Public Library Foundation** – Wendy Townley (Executive Director)

Wendy Townley, Executive Director of the Omaha Public Library Foundation, appeared and spoke (via Zoom).

10. **Director's Report** – Laura Marlane (Executive Director)

Ms. Marlane appeared and spoke.

11. **Board President's Report** – Mike Kennedy (President)

President Kennedy thanked Trustees Jesse Sullivan and Adrian Suarez-Delgado for their invaluable service on the Board of Trustees. Trustee Michael Alley has resigned from the Board due to moving. Two new Board members will begin their terms on July 1, 2021, leaving one vacancy.

12. **Library Liaison Reports** – Library Trustees

None.

PUBLIC INPUT, COMMENTS, AND QUESTIONS

President Kennedy stated that any member of the public may address the Board on a topic of relevance to the Omaha Public Library, after identifying themselves by name and address for public record. Trustees may engage in questions and discussion of any topic presented, but any desired action will be placed on a future agenda.

13. **Input, Comments, and Questions**

President Kennedy opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 13.

No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

14. The Board may recess and go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, personnel issues, and/or any other matter allowed by law.

A. **Motion needed to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues only (evaluation of Executive Director).**

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Korf, to go into Executive Session at 5:29 P.M. for the purpose of discussing personnel issues only.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, Williams, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

PRESIDENT KENNEDY STATED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS GOING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PERSONNEL ISSUES ONLY.

TRUSTEE WILLIAMS LEFT THE MEETING AT 5:43 P.M.

B. Motion needed to come out of Executive Session.

MOTION by Suarez-Delgado, SECOND by Barrett, to come out of Executive Session at 5:59 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

PRESIDENT KENNEDY STATED THAT WHILE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES DISCUSSED PERSONNEL ISSUES ONLY.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Korf, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:59 P.M.

Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary

Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer