
OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES



MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 16, 2022 @ 5:00 P.M.
South Omaha Library – 2808 Q Street

CALL TO ORDER

1. The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Thursday, June 16, 2022 at the South Omaha Library, 2808 Q Street. President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M.

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

PRESENT: Cameron Gales
Keegan Korf, Vice-President
Keith Lutz
Rochelle Mullen
Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer
Mike Kennedy, President
Laura Marlane, Executive Director, Omaha Public Library (Non-voting)

ABSENT ENTIRE MEETING: John Barrett
Tulani Grundy Meadows

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION – NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

2. 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 and wall. The Library certified [publication](#) of the meeting in the Daily Record, the Official Newspaper of the City of Omaha, on June 10, 2022.

BRANCH REPORT

3. Marvel Maring, Branch Manager

Marvel Maring, Branch Manager, appeared and spoke. She discussed important facts about the Branch and its patrons, and answered questions from Board members.

DEPARTMENT MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATION

4. Jessica Johnson, Borrower Services Manager

Jessica Johnson, Borrower Services Manager, appeared and spoke. She discussed her role within Omaha Public Library and provided the Board with important facts.

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.

RESOLUTIONS

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

5. **[Approval of minutes – April 21, 2022](#)** *(Over from 5/19/2022)*

President Kennedy opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 5.

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

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Mullen, that Agenda Item 5 (Approval of minutes – April 21, 2022) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

6. **[Res. 2022-07 Approval of temporary morning closure of all branches \(except South Library\) for staff training on August 25](#)** *(Over from 5/19/2022)*

President Kennedy opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 6.

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

MOTION by Korf, SECOND by Wang, that Agenda Item 6 (Res. 2022-07 Approval of temporary morning closure of all branches (except South Library) for staff training on August 25) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

7. **[Res. 2022-08 Approval of temporary closure at Saddlebrook Branch for gym resurfacing on July 22 and 23](#)** *(Over from 5/19/2022)*

President Kennedy opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 7.

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

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Korf, that Agenda Item 7 (Res. 2022-08 Approval of temporary closure at Saddlebrook Branch for gym resurfacing on July 22 and 23) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

8. Res. 2022-09 Approval of Board officers

President Kennedy opened up the public comment on Agenda Item 8.

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

MOTION by Korf, SECOND by Wang, to nominate Mike Kennedy as President of the Board of Trustees.

No other nominations for President.

MOTION by Mullen, SECOND by Wang, that the nomination of Mike Kennedy to serve as President of the Board of Trustees, to serve a term from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

MOTION by Kennedy, SECOND by Mullen, to nominate Keegan Korf as Vice-President of the Board of Trustees.

No other nominations for Vice-President.

MOTION by Kennedy, SECOND by Wang, that the nomination of Keegan Korf to serve as Vice-President of the Board of Trustees, to serve a term from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

MOTION by Korf, SECOND by Kennedy, to nominate Jen Rae Wang as Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

No other nominations for Secretary-Treasurer.

MOTION by Korf, SECOND by Kennedy, that the nomination of Jen Rae Wang to serve as Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees, to serve a term from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

9. **Res. 2022-10 Approval of Advisory Committee**

A. **Communication from David Dick**

President Kennedy opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 9. The following persons appeared and spoke:

- Dawaune Lamont Hayes, 1707 Park Avenue
- Leo Louis II, 10507 Sprague Plaza
- Terry White, 1951 South 11th Street
- Jane Skinner, 1011 South 35th Street
- Amy Wenzl, 2405 S 43rd Street
- Corbin Delgado, 324 Shannon Road
- Erik Oberg, 6319 North 36th Avenue
- Edwin Schroeder, 621 South 15th Street Apartment 301 (via Zoom)
- Rita Shelley, 8721 Lafayette Avenue
- Rachel Jacobson, President, Heritage Omaha

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

MOTION by Mullen, SECOND by WANG, that Agenda Item 9 (Res. 2022-10 Approval of Advisory Committee) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

Abstain: Korf, Lutz

MOTION APPROVED 4-0-2

REPORTS

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

Ms. Marlane appeared and spoke, highlighting items from her report.

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

A. Recognition of service of Dr. Keith Lutz

12. **Friends of Omaha Public Library** – Margaret Pope (President)

Margaret Pope, President of Friends of Omaha Public Library, was unable to attend the meeting but submitted her report.

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

Wendy Townley, Executive Director of Omaha Public Library Foundation, appeared and spoke, highlighting items from her report.

14. **Library Liaison Reports** – Library Trustees
A. Discussion and proposal to change the date of regular monthly meetings of Board of Trustees

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

15. **Finance Committee** – Korf (Chair), Kennedy, Mullen
16. **Community Engagement Committee** – Barrett (Chair), Grundy Meadows, *Vacant*
17. **Facilities Committee** – Wang (Chair), Gales, Lutz, Mullen

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.

18. **Input, Comments, and Questions**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

19. 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 7:21 P.M. for the purpose of discussing personnel issues only.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

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

- B. **Motion needed to come out of Executive Session.**

MOTION by Lutz, SECOND by Wang, to come out of Executive Session at 7:33 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, 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 Lutz, SECOND by Wang, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Gales, Korf, Lutz, Mullen, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:33 P.M.

Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary

Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer