

OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 @ 5:00 P.M.

Willa Cather Branch – 1905 South 44th Street

CALL TO ORDER

1. The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at the Willa Cather Branch, 1905 South 44th Street. President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M.

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

PRESENT: John Barrett
Tulani Grundy Meadows
Keegan Korf, Vice-President
Rochelle Mullen
Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer (**Entered @ 5:18 P.M.**)
Bryan Wilson (**Entered @ 5:16 P.M.**)
Mike Kennedy, President
Laura Marlane, Executive Director, Omaha Public Library (Non-voting)

ABSENT ENTIRE MEETING: Cameron Gales

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 September 16, 2022.

BRANCH REPORT

3. **Lori Nelson, Branch Manager**

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

TRUSTEE WILSON ENTERED THE MEETING AT 5:16 P.M.

DEPARTMENT MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATION

4. **Emily Getzschman, Marketing Manager**

Emily Getzschman, Marketing Manager, appeared and spoke. She discussed her Department and answered questions from Board members.

TRUSTEE WANG ENTERED THE MEETING AT 5:18 P.M.

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.

RESOLUTION

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

5. **Approval of minutes – August 17, 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 Korf, SECOND by Wang, that Agenda Item 5 (Approval of minutes – August 17, 2022) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Grundy Meadows, Korf, Mullen, Wang, Wilson, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

REPORTS

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

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

7. **Board President and Vice-President Report** – Mike Kennedy (President) and Keegan Korf (Vice-President)

President Kennedy discussed the Advisory Committee, which consists of Omaha Public Library staff (Executive Director, Assistant Library Director, and senior staff member); the Community Information Trust CEO; the DoSpace Director; a representative from the Omaha Public Library Foundation; a representative from the Board of Trustees appointed by the Trustees; the City of Omaha Finance Director; the City of Omaha Human Resources Director; and a representative from the Mayor's Office. President Kennedy appointed Trustee Mullen to the Advisory Committee as the Board representative, with Trustee Wilson as the second/back-up representative.

Trustee Wilson will be placed on the Finance Committee.

8. **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.

9. **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.

10. **Library Liaison Reports** – Library Trustees

President Kennedy stated that he visited the Interim Downtown Branch.

Trustee Korf stated that she visited the Benson Branch.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. **Finance Committee** – Korf (Chair), Kennedy, Mullen, Wilson

None.

12. **Community Engagement Committee** – Grundy Meadows (Chair), Barrett, *Vacant*

None.

13. **Facilities Committee** – Mullen (Chair), Gales, Wang

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.

14. **Input, Comments, and Questions**

President Kennedy opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 14.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

15. 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.

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Grundy Meadows, Korf, Mullen, Wang, Wilson, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:18 P.M.

Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary

Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer

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