

MINUTES

Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – May 17, 2022

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. at Central Library, 14 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Browne, President
Claudia Oñate Greim
Laura Dominik
Jonathan Kemper
Michelle Smirnova
Denesha Snell
India Williams

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Billie Howard Barnes
Susie Kenney

STAFF PRESENT: John Herron, Chief Executive
Jensen Adams, Energy and Sustainability Officer
Jessica Addo, Purchasing Manager
Amanda Barnhart, North-East Branch Manager
Carrie Coogan, Deputy Director for Public Affairs and
Community Engagement
Michael Daly, Audio Visual Supervisor
Brianna Daniels, Administrative Officer
Crystal Faris, Deputy Director of Youth & Family Engagement
Kim Gile, Community Specialists Leader
Joel Jones, Deputy Director of Library Services
Mary Olive Joyce, Director of Library Outreach & Community
Engagement
Heather Pedersen, Executive Assistant / Manager of Executive
Services
Margaret Perkins-McGuinness, Deputy Director for Philanthropy
Beccah Rendall, Library VISTA Project Manager
Debbie Siragusa, Assistant Director / Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Stoppello, Director of Library Collections
Kaite Stover, Director of Reader's Services
Anthony Trakas, Finance Manager

Browne called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Browne presented Kemper with a framed print of the Community Bookshelf to thank him on behalf of the Board and the Library for his 17 years of service as Board President.

Motion by Oñate Greim to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2022 Executive Committee meeting and April 19, 2022 Regular Board meeting. Second by Kemper. Approved unanimously. Dominik abstained.

(Note: As a matter of Board convention, the Chair votes only when his/her vote would affect the outcome of the vote. In all "recorded" votes, the vote of the Chair appears only when it has actually been cast and when it has had an effect on the disposition of the motion. Notations of "approved unanimously" mean all members, other than the Chair, voting affirmatively.)

Snell arrived at 5:41pm.

Discussing the authorization of expenditures exceeding \$50,000 (LBM 4551), the Board inquired about the contingency for the Library's internet connectivity and equipment program if the federal Emergency Connectivity Fund is not renewed in 2024. Herron confirmed that the Library will fund or seek alternative funding for the program should it not be renewed by the government.

Motion by Dominik to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Snell. Approved unanimously. The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for April 2022: Payroll (4/7/22 net cash \$299,921 plus taxes \$112,430.29) and (4/18/22 net cash \$296,858 plus taxes \$111,572) total amount of \$820,781; General Expense Payments including Checks (#7827-8044), in the amount of \$919,103. (LBM 4549)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for April 2022. (LBM 4550)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the contract with and/or make payment to the attached list of vendors in amounts not to exceed those detailed in the attached list of vendors for FY 2022 - 2023. (LBM 4551)

Discussing the Library's Retirement Medical Program and associated Volunteer Employee Benefit Association (VEBA) trust (LBM 4554), Siragusa noted that the Library's existing VEBA trust agreement will no longer be offered by the provider after a recent acquisition. To move to the new selected provider, Emeriti, the Library must submit a Board approved resolution authorizing the Chief Executive to establish the plans and trusts under the new provider.

Motion by Snell to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to approve the attached resolution granting authority to the Chief Executive to establish the plans and trusts for the Retirement Medical Program under the Emeriti Program, to act on behalf of the Library in performing the acts necessary to establish the Emeriti

Program; and to delegate the power to act to other individuals. Second by Dominik. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4554)

Motion by Dominik to approve of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to purchase modular workstations from Pure Workplace Solutions for the renovation of the second floor of the Annex at a cost not to exceed \$52,110. Second by Smirnova. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4552)

Kemper suggested that the Building Oversight Committee look at the renovation plans and provide input on the designs from the public’s point of view before proceeding with the renovation process.

Motion by Snell to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to contract with The Wilson Group, Inc. to provide construction services for the renovation of the north end of the third floor of the Central Library at a cost not to exceed \$190,344. Second by Williams. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4553)

Herron introduced Crystal Faris, Director of Youth & Family Engagement and Kaite Stover, Director of Reader’s Services who discussed the 2022 Summer Reading and Learning Program. This year’s Summer Reading Program is again for all ages – children, teens, and adults. Events will include the outdoor events started last summer, Pop in at the Park, Kids Café, Harvester’s meal bus, Take and Make kits, as well as indoor events in various branches with special guests from the Kansas City Zoo, Mad Science, and Theatre of the Imagination. The library will launch a trial of kindergarten readiness story times to teach young children how to hold and care for books. The trial program will be evaluated through various methods using collected data, surveys, and anecdotal observations.

Discussing the Director’s Report with the Board. (LBM 4555), Herron highlighted the significance of the 8th Naturalization Ceremony, held at Central Library, and hosted by the RISE Team. Over 80 people from 34 different countries became citizens. The Federal Court live-streamed the event on YouTube and RISE live-streamed the event on Instagram.

The board moved into closed session at 5:54pm. No action was taken.

Motion by Dominik to adjourn. Second by Snell. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Secretary

Date