

**LIBRARY MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
21 JANUARY 2025**

The regular meeting of the Joplin Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by President Mary Gaarder. Board Members Emily Stanley, Heather Van Otterloo, Veda Boyd Jones, Andrea Cullers, Diane Reid Adams, Jennifer Baldwin, and Jean Coltharp, and Library Director Jeana Gockley were present.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Lisa Erickson.

BOARD EDUCATION: There was no Board Education.

MINUTES: Minutes from the November 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by Ms. Boyd Jones to approve the minutes as presented, with a second by Dr. Van Otterloo. Motion passed. **6/0**

VOUCHERS:

- Revised October non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$140,450.97 were approved.
(Baldwin/Coltharp) 6/0
 - In discussion of the October expense and revenue sheets, President Gaarder asked if the Board wanted to invest more money in True North. After discussion, the issue was tabled until the February meeting.
- November non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$31,900.83 were approved.
(Coltharp/Van Otterloo) 7/0
- December non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$73,775.35 were approved.
(Stanley/Baldwin) 7/0

COMMITTEE REPORTS: There were no Committee Reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Media Engagement

- On December 10, I talked about holiday gift cards and the Adult Winter Reading Challenge at [KSN](#)'s Living Well.
- On December 13, [KOAM](#) aired a story about the Post Art Library's Holiday Tea event.
- On December 17, [KSN](#) aired a story about the Library's new LOTE4Kids database - an online resource that offers 4,500 picture books in 75 languages.

- On January 2, [KSN](#) aired a story about researching your genealogy.
- On January 2, [KOAM](#) aired a story about the Anime/Manga program for adults.
- Homebound Delivery
 - On January 2, [KSN](#) aired a story.
 - On January 5, The Joplin Globe featured an editorial.
 - On January 7, [KZRG](#) released a story.
 - On January 7, I shared about it on [KSN](#)'s Living Well.
 - On January 9, Lori Crockett shared about it on [KOAM](#)'s Good Morning Four States.
- On January 6, [KSN](#) aired a story about how to get or renew library cards.
- On January 7, [KZRG](#) aired a story about the exhibit Miniature Paintings by Jesse McCormick.
- Upcoming Teen Adulting 101 Events
 - On January 9, [KSN](#) aired a story.
 - On January 17, [KOAM](#) aired a story.
- Interactive AfterMouse Play Table
 - On January 14, [KOAM](#) aired a story.
 - On January 15, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared a story.
 - On January 16, [KSN](#) aired a story.
- On January 14, [KOAM](#) aired a story about the First Impact Teen Driver Program for parents and teens that the Library is hosting in collaboration with the Joplin Health Department.

Programs

- There is still time to participate in our Adult Winter Reading Challenge before it ends on January 31. Complete 5 out of the 15 provided reading categories and receive a mug and three tickets for the prize raffle. So far 71 people have finished.
- On January 11, forty-five adults, divided into fourteen teams, turned out for our Puzzle Competition. The winning team, "Brain, Brawn, Beauty...and a Baby", finished in 41 minutes.
- On January 14, it was an art-filled programming day for the Youth Services Department. At 10am, they hosted a Preschool Art Exploration program for kids (41), a spiral knot bracelet takeout kit was available beginning at 11 am for Teens, the Teen Crafternoon program was from 4 to 6 pm (14), and at 4:15 pm Young Artists Club for children ages 8 to 12 (14) met.

Personnel

- Athen Taylor was hired as a part-time Youth Services Assistant. Her first day of employment was December 3.

Building & Grounds

- David Toney Inc. finished the paver work near the building.
- HVAC Update - Three of the six compressors attached to Heat Pump 1 have failed. Daikin is going to warranty all six compressors. Satterlee will replace all six units and a technician from Daikin will be on site to start the system after the repairs.

- A driver ran into the concrete retaining wall on the northwest corner of the property and severely damaged the wall. Driver insurance information was obtained by the Joplin Police Department. The City of Joplin Public Works Department is working to repair the wall.

Miscellaneous

- The Library received a comment on library resources on November 18, about *I Am Jazz*, a Children's Storybook. The committee found that the book should not be considered for removal and mailed their findings in a response to the commenter.
- The Missouri Public Library Directors (MPLD) conference was held in Columbia on December 5 and 6. The slate of programs were focused on the theme of placemaking and included sessions about civil discourse programming, social media, podcasting, and including art galleries in libraries.
- The Library's annual report was released for FY24. Materials circulated, visitors to the Library, Computer Lab use, Passport services, and equipment use in the Makerspace all saw increases. New Library card registrations were slightly down for the year as compared to FY23 when all patrons were required to re-register for cards.

STATISTICS: The Board reviewed November and December statistics.

BOARD COMMENTS:

1. **Dr. Reid Adams, Friends of the Library:** Reported on the FOL treasury and book sales. A MSSU professor will present a program on Charles Dickens in February. Volunteers are still needed for the Homebound Delivery program. Feb. 11 is the next FOL Board meeting. There is a FOL-sponsored Joplin Reads Together event scheduled for April 3.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no Public Comments.

STAFF COMMENTS: Jeana reminded Board Members about the strategic planning retreat on Jan. 30 and passed around a packet for it.

The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Written by

Administrative Assistant

Approved by

Library Director

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Joplin Public Library will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, February 18, 2025.