

**LIBRARY MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
24 JANUARY 2022**

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 Nicole Shoaf, Andrea Cullers, Jim Fleischaker, and Jennifer Baldwin, and Library Director Jeana Gockley were present.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Barbara Hicklin, David Layne, Lisa Erickson and Emily Stanley.

**STAFF INTRODUCTION:** Jeana introduced Justin Kelly, the Library's new incoming IT Manager, who has been on board since Dec. 13.

**BOARD EDUCATION:** None.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the regular November 2021 meeting were discussed. Mr. Fleischaker proposed a correction of a typo. Motion by Mr. Fleischaker to approve the minutes as corrected. Second by Ms. Baldwin. **4/0**

**VOUCHERS:** November non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$18,423.92 were approved. **(Baldwin/Shoaf) 4/0** December non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$60,035.20 were approved. **(Fleischaker/Baldwin) 4/0**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 1. Friends of the Library update.** Jeana reported on the group's current activities. They are focusing on forming a membership committee, and are working with a marketing firm to develop a logo. A bank account has been established and checks have arrived.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1. Policy for public comment at Board meetings.** Jeana presented a proposed policy for public participation at Library Board meetings. Board Members discussed specific wording and who from the public should be permitted to speak at meetings. Motion by Dr. Shoaf to approve the policy, with the change of wording to specify that only residents of the Library district or Library members may speak at Board meetings. Second by Dr. Cullers. Motion passed. **(4/0)**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. March Board meeting.** Jeana will be gone at a conference during the regularly scheduled March Board meeting. She requested that the Board move the meeting from March 21 to March 28. Motion by Dr. Cullers to move the March 2022 meeting to March 28. Seconded by Mr. Fleischaker. Motion passed. **(4/0)**
- 2. Board email addresses.** New emails for Board Members have been set up. They are requested to use them when conducting Board or Library business.

**LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:**

## **Announcements:**

### **Media Engagement**

- Makerspace
  - On November 19, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared a story about the reopening.
  - On November 24, [KSN](#) aired a story about the reopening.
- On November 29, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared information about the Christmas tree in the Library's lobby that had free winter items courtesy of Economic Security Corporation.
- On December 7, appeared on [KSN's Living Well](#) and discussed the upcoming Regina Jennings author visit.
- On December 16, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared an event posting about the Library's Storywalk as part of Mercy Park's Holiday Tree Trail.
- On December 22, [The Joplin Globe](#) mentioned the Library in its "Five Fun Things to do this Weekend" article - specifically to visit and donate as part of the Red Cross Blood Drive being held at the Library.
- On January 5, 2022, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared a photo of Storytime participants with information about Storytime resuming.
- On January 15, 2022, [KSN](#) aired a story about the Smithsonian City of Hope art exhibit in the Library's Bramlage Willcoxon Gallery.

### **Programs**

- Two Pro Musica events were hosted by the Post Art Library on December 4; 44 attended the morning Bach-A-Bye Baby performance and 95 were at the afternoon performance.
- Regina Jennings' author visit was December 9; 24 were in attendance.
- The Library partnered with the City of Joplin to participate in the Mercy Park Tree Trail; the Children's staff created two Storywalks.
- The Library hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive on December 22 and 23; with 36 total units collected.
- Children's programming returned in January with no registration, and masking optional.

### **Grants & Donations**

- Several grants have been received:
  - Strengthen Missouri (ARPA) grant - \$36,000 to support 80 hotspots for another year, plus \$12,000 for downloadable e-resources
  - Summer Reading (LSTA) grant - \$10,000 to help with our 2022 Summer Reading Program
  - Lemons Trust (local) grant - \$2,000 for the Children's and Teen Departments to create circulating STEM Kits
  - Bramlage Willcoxon (local) grant; \$5,000 for a targeted non-Library cardholder direct mail campaign
- Thanks to Barb Hicklin and Emily Stanley for their generous donations in December to the Library's Foundation.

### **Training**

- Attended the Missouri Public Library Director's (MPLD) Winter Conference December 1 through 3, in Columbia.

- Hosted a Cybersecurity training on December 8 at the Library; thanks to Jason Rinker from Stronghold Data for presenting.

**Staffing**

- Justin Kelly joined the team as the incoming IT Manager; Lee Cushing’s final day is January 28.
- Chelsey Gatewood is planning her exit for mid-February; Lori Crockett has been hired as the incoming PR/Marketing Assistant - her first day is January 31.

**Miscellaneous**

- The Library will expand its hours on February 1; Tuesday hours will now be 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**STATISTICS:** No discussion.

**STAFF COMMENTS:** None.

**BOARD COMMENTS:** The Board discussed the latest Board training webinar. Jeana presented infographics summarizing the previous fiscal year.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 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. Monday, 28 February 2022.