

**LIBRARY MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
17 APRIL 2023**

The regular meeting of the Joplin Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President Mary Gaarder. Board Members Andrea Cullers, Jim Fleischaker, Barbara Hicklin, Lisa Erickson, David Layne, Jean Coltharp, and Emily Stanley, and Library Director Jeana Gockley were present.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Jennifer Baldwin.

**BOARD EDUCATION:** None.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the March 2023 regular meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by Ms. Erickson to approve the minutes as presented, with a second by Mr. Fleischaker. Motion passed. **7/0**

**VOUCHERS:** March non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$86,825.34 were approved. **(Fleischaker/Hicklin) 7/0**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: Friends of the Library.** Ms. Stanley reported that a Friends fundraiser, dubbed Spring for a Book, kicked off April 15; supporters can buy a book, a stack of books, or a shelf of books by donating funds. Donor placards will be on display at the Circulation Desk. In addition, in honor of National Library Week, the Friends group purchased new t-shirts for all Library employees.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **Date of June 2023 Board Meeting.** The usual date of the June meeting is June 19, when the Library will be closed for Juneteenth. There was a motion by Ms. Hicklin to meet June 12, with a second by Dr. Coltharp. The motion passed. **(7/0)** There will be no reports provided at this meeting due to the early date and the planned absence of the Library administrative assistant.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:**

**Media Engagement**

- Missouri House Representatives zeroing out State Aid funds to libraries
  - On March 23, [The Joplin Globe](#) ran a story.
  - On April 11, [KOAM](#) aired a story.
- On March 27, the Library was featured on Missouri Southern State University's KGCS tv station, as part of their [Newsmakers](#) program.

- On April 1, [The Joplin Globe](#) ran a story about area power outages, including the one at the Library.
- On April 4, Jeana Gockley shared about the Library's Spring Break activities on [KSN's Living Well](#).
- Joplin Reads Together
  - On April 5, [The Joplin Globe](#) ran a story about the Swedish culture event and PAL's Lost & Found art exhibit and opening reception.
  - On April 11, [The Joplin Globe](#) ran a story about the Researching Your Roots event.
  - On April 13, Lori Crockett appeared on [KOAM's](#) Good Morning Four States program and shared information.
- On April 13, [The Joplin Globe](#) ran a story about the Friends of the Library's Spring for a Book fundraiser.
- Iconic Joplin
  - On April 12, [KOAM](#) aired a story.
  - On April 12, [KSN](#) aired a story.
  - [The Joplin Globe](#) featured a story.

### **Programs**

- Iconic Joplin is a creative LEGO challenge that was designed by Lisa Nelson of Landmark Builds to inspire teenagers to explore local history, specifically landmarks in our community. The event kicked off in December with the 30 participants being divided into six teams, at three host sites, and over the course of four months each team selected a Joplin landmark, learned about its history and significance from the help of local experts, and created their build. On April 12, the finished LEGO landmarks were installed at SPIVA Center for the Arts and an opening reception was held. They will be on display through May 13. Kudos to Teen Services Librarian Beth Snow for facilitating the event for two of the teams at the Library.
- As part of Joplin Reads Together, Adult Programming Coordinator Sarah Turner-Hill has facilitated eight events, so far; with the most recent Wonders of Wildlife event drawing a crowd of 261 people. There are two events left; you will not want to miss the author visit with Shelby Van Pelt on April 27, at 6 pm.

### **Building and Grounds**

- The Library was affected by severe weather on Friday, March 31; due to high winds and electrical issues, and an eventual outage the Library closed at 5 pm.
- All components of the HVAC have been repaired. It is currently fully operational.

### **Legislative Update**

- The Secretary of State's rule affecting libraries was published the week of April 10. The published rule includes a few comments from the comment period and the Secretary of State's responses to them, as well. The rule goes into effect May 30, 2023 with libraries having to submit their policies by July 31.
- On April 14, Jeana attended a legislative update at Granny Schaffers. Area legislators talked about their proposed bills and answered questions.

- Lincoln Hough, the Senate budget chair, has been quoted as saying they will put Library state aid funding back in the budget. The Senate should vote on their budget within the next couple of weeks.

**STATISTICS:** There was discussion of adult programming numbers, as well as Kanopy use.

**STAFF COMMENTS:** None.

**BOARD COMMENTS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Written by

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Administrative Assistant

Approved by

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Library Director

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Joplin Public Library will be held at 4 p.m. Monday, 15 May 2023.

