

**LIBRARY MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
17 SEPTEMBER 2024**

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, Lisa Erickson, Heather Van Otterloo, Veda Boyd Jones, Andrea Cullers, Jennifer Baldwin, Jean Coltharp and Diane Reid Adams, and Library Director Jeana Gockley were present.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: None

BOARD EDUCATION: Jeana presented about the Libby app that the Library offers patrons. She shared a video of PR/Marketing Assistant Lori Crockett's appearance on KSN's Living Well in which Lori demonstrated how to use Libby on one's tablet or phone. Jeana further explained that JPL shares this resource with other libraries as part of a consortium.

MINUTES: Minutes from the August 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by Ms. Baldwin to approve the minutes, with a second by Dr. Reid Adams. Motion passed. **8/0**

VOUCHERS: August non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$79,314.69 were approved. (Van Otterloo/Coltharp) **8/0**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Library Director's goal-setting.** The Board discussed and identified precise goals for the Director. They are as follows:
 - a. Utilize the recent building study to implement a short-term maintenance plan and long-term improvements projects
 - b. Expand outreach to seniors and to the disabled
 - c. Investigate the feasibility of changing Library hours
 - d. Update the strategic plan

NEW BUSINESS: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Media Engagement

- Property Tax Levy Hearing
 - On August 22, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared a story.
 - On August 23, [KODE](#) shared a story.
 - On August 24, [KZRG](#) shared a story.
 - On August 28, following the hearing, [The Joplin Globe](#) published a story.
- Reflections of Hunger Exhibit

- On August 20, [The Joplin Globe](#) printed an article about the Ozark Center's "Reflections of Hunger" exhibit that will be at the Library starting September 5. The deadline for artwork submission is August 30.
- On September 5, [KOAM](#) aired a story about the exhibit.
- On September 9, [KSN](#) aired a story about the exhibit.
- On September 3, Jill Williams talked about Teen services on [KSN](#)'s Living Well.
- On September 5, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared about the Book Swap event in their "5 things to do" section.
- On September 6, I co-hosted [KSN](#)'s Living Well.
- On September 12, Lori Crockett shared about Hobbit Day on [KODE](#)'s Good Morning Four States.
- On September 12, [KSN](#) featured a story about the Little Blue Book display.

Programs

- Lori Crockett and Eden Kendall represented the Library at Missouri Southern State University's Community Day on August 21. They connected with around 100 individuals and signed 18 of them up for new cards.
- Makerspace Assistant Jen Lewis hosted Abish Jewelry Works for a silversmithing and stone setting demonstration on August 27. Thirty attendees took part.
- The Library participated in NALA's Literacy Liftoff fundraiser event on September 13 at Missouri Southern State University. Over 200 individuals stopped by the Library's booth.

Displays & Exhibits

- Post Art Library Director Jill Halbach coordinated the opening reception for the Ozark Center's "Reflections of Hunger" exhibit on September 5. Eighty individuals attended.
- Thanks to an award from the Frederick and Rebekah Hughes Charitable Trust, a new Storywalk is available in the Library's outdoor classroom. The trust award paid for several stories to be printed and laminated.
- Danya Walker's Little Blue Books collection is on display in the Local History display cases. Between 1919 and 1978, this book series was a popular way to learn about a person or subject. The Little Blue Book series was sold nationwide but was printed locally by the Haldeman-Julius Publishing Company in Girard, Kansas.

Personnel

- Teen Services Librarian Jill Williams has tendered her resignation. Her last day with the Library will be October 31, 2024.

STATISTICS: There was discussion of statistics.

STAFF COMMENTS: There were no Staff Comments.

BOARD COMMENTS: Dr. Reid Adams provided a Friends of the Library report. She shared that there will be a FOL trivia fund-raiser on Sept. 28. The Writer's Faire is Oct. 12. Oct. 17 is the annual meeting, with the election of officers. The Friends Board voted to buy two new 3D

printers for the Library Makerspace. Future plans involve purchasing furniture and a new rug for the Children's Department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no Public Comments.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 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, October 15, 2024.