

## Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Omaha Public Library

Present: Carol Wang, President  
Lenora Isom, Vice President  
Caitlin Davis, Secretary  
Adrian Suarez-Delgado  
Mike Kennedy  
Jesse Sullivan  
Ervin Portis  
Kathleen McCallister

Absent: Beverly Thompson

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Omaha Public Library was held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at Florence Branch Library, 2920 Bondesson St., Omaha, Nebraska. The Library certifies publication notice of the meeting in the Daily Record, the official newspaper of the City of Omaha, on October 12, 2016.

Wang called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Roll was taken.

**Consent Agenda**

Wang congratulated Sullivan on her new baby, and welcomed McCallister to the board. McCallister is from south central Omaha, and has spent her life in public service and is excited to join the library board.

**MOTION** by Kennedy, seconded by Portis, to approve the item in the Consent Agenda. Yeas: Davis, Isom, Kennedy, Portis, Wang. Nays: None. Abstain: Sullivan, McCallister Motion carried 5-0.

**Resolution**

Wang presented an updated Video Security Camera Policy. The updated policy allows for release of video footage without a warrant or subpoena in the event of emergency situations where time is a factor, something the current policy does not allow. It also changed the number of days footage is kept from 21 days to 30 days.

McCallister presented several edits to the policy in a handout to the trustees. These edits included, adding the provision of both randomly and regularly monitoring activity, adjusting language to better define emergency situations to allow law enforcement more access when they require it, and removing the number of days footage is stored. Portis stated that he had similar questions about the new policy.

McCallister went on to say she feels there is a misunderstanding that it is easy for law enforcement to quickly get a subpoena or warrant and she doesn't want libraries to be a sanctuary for criminal behavior. She used an example of someone exposing themselves in the library, under the current policy police would need a warrant to view the footage to identify the person. McCallister feels her changes give the director and staff more flexibility to assist law enforcement when needed.

## 4531

Kennedy asked Peters about the policy at the Civic Center. Peters said that the Building Commission operates the Civic Center's cameras, so she would need to do some research to find this information. McCallister stated that, if the Civic Center gets a request for footage from law enforcement, they turn it over without a subpoena or warrant. Peters agreed but stated that they are supervised by Douglas County Sheriff's office.

Kennedy stated that he understands McCallister's points, but there is a fine line to walk between allowing police access and patron's rights and expectations of privacy. Wang stated that she would like to also make sure the policy fits within the Nebraska Library Association and American Library Association's guidelines. Should a policy fall outside of those guidelines the library could lose their funding. Kennedy asked for these guidelines at the next meeting.

Suarez-Delgado asked if Omaha Police had been consulted for this policy. Malane stated that she was only updating the section about emergency situations, so she did not review the rest of the policy. McCallister feels that all stakeholders should be brought to the table for a discussion before any changes to the policy are made. Davis agreed, stating people require both safety and privacy in the library, so a stakeholder discussion is a good idea.

**MOTION** by Portis, seconded by McCallister, to return the policy to the director for further input with stakeholders. Yeas: Davis, Isom, Kennedy, McCallister, Portis, Suarez-Delgado Sullivan, Wang. Nays: None. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Branch Manager Report.**

Florence Branch Manager, Deirdre Routt, welcomed the trustees to the library. Routt has been manager at Florence for two years, but is moving to A.V. Sorensen branch next month. Florence is the smallest branch in the system, but has a very dedicated population. In 2009, when Florence was going to be closed, the community raised money to keep it open and cover a renovation. Florence is a joint use facility with the Florence Community Center, there are many joint partnerships including a Halloween event coming up next week. Mayor Stothert's next town hall meeting is scheduled for October 27 at Florence.

### **Board Development**

**United for Libraries.** The Trustees viewed a 10-minute video from United for Libraries titled, *What it means to be a Trustee*. Following the video Isom asked two questions presented in the video, if the trustees were covered by City Legal and if the library had a procedure for challenged materials. Peters stated, yes, should the Trustees ever been sued City Legal would handle it and the legal costs would not come from the Library's budget. Marlane answered that yes, there is a form patrons can fill out to challenge materials. This form then goes to the Collection Development committee to review and respond to.

### **Committees**

**Finance Committee.** No Report

**Facilities Committee.** The committee has their first meeting scheduled.

## 4532

**Community Engagement Committee.** Will be scheduling their first meeting now that McCallister has joined the board.

### Reports

**Friends of the Library.** Hosier referred to her report. Their annual meeting will be on January 14, 2017 at the Community Engagement Center at UNO from 1:00pm-3:00pm. The executive committee has finalized their slate of officers for next year, Hosier will continue in her role as president.

The Friends have also finalized their budget for 2017, the total budget will be \$165,000 with \$135,000 being donated back to the library. Of the \$135,000, \$50,000 is set aside for the Bess Brodkey Scholarship program that reimburses library staff for their continuing education.

Hosier encouraged the Trustees to help recruit new members for the Friends, a post card will be going out in mid-November, new members will receive a 10% discount on their book purchases of sales over \$15.

Isom stated that she has been attending the Friends meetings. McCallister asked about the process of donating to the Friends and the Friends social media presence. Hosier explained that donations can be made at any library location, a donation form for their taxes will be provided. Because the Friends have no paid staff they do not have a social media presence, but do sell materials online. Currently the Friends have over 40,000 books on sale with twice that much still in storage.

**Omaha Public Library Foundation.** Wang reported in Townley's absence, the Foundation is starting their final year asks with a hope to raise \$150,000 by December 31.

**Library Director Report.** Marlane referred to her report. Marlane and three other staff members attended the Urban Library Council's convention in Kansas City last month, focusing on programming results. The move to Network Nebraska is moving forward, now all traffic, not just public internet will be moving over. Dot.comm is still waiting to see if there will be any penalty fees for canceling the Cox contract.

There have been a number of questions from staff about service animals. Marlane has taken the information from the Americans with Disabilities Act and, along with help from City Legal, created procedures to give staff clear information in this area.

Marlane asked McCallister if she would be willing to serve on the stakeholder committee to review the Video Security Camera Policy, McCallister agreed.

**Presidents Report.** Wang had no report.

**Library Liaison Reports.** Isom attended Senator Fischer's town hall at Millard Branch and stopped in to Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch her check out her next audiobook. Sullivan and her new son have been attending story times at Willa Cather, there have been a good number of other children at these story times.

**Public Input, Comments and Questions.** None.

## 4533

**MOTION** by Isom, seconded by Kennedy, to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Omaha Public Library at 6:32p.m. Yeas: Davis, Isom, Kennedy, McCallister, Portis, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang. Nays: None. Motion carried 8-0.

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Kyle Porter, Recording Secretary

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Caitlin Davis, Secretary