

**OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, August 15, 2018 @ 5:00 P.M.  
Charles B. Washington Branch – 2868 Ames Avenue



**CALL TO ORDER**

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at the Charles B. Washington Branch, 2868 Ames Avenue (Omaha). President Wang called the meeting to order at 5:04 P.M.

Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary, took the Roll Call:

**PRESENT:** Cecelia Creighton  
Michele Frost  
Mike Kennedy  
Keegan Korf  
Keith Lutz  
Jesse Sullivan, Vice-President  
Carol Wang, President  
Laura Marlane, Executive Director, Omaha Public Library (Non-voting)

**ABSENT:** Adrian Suarez-Delgado, Secretary-Treasurer

**ABSENT ENTIRE MEETING:** Caitlin Davis

**CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION – NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETING ACT**

President Wang stated that the meeting is held in accordance with the [Nebraska Open Meetings Act](#), a copy of which is available on the table. The Library certified [publication](#) of the meeting in the Daily Record, the Official Newspaper of the City of Omaha, on August 8, 2018.

**BRANCH REPORT**

3. [Charles B. Washington Branch](#) – Joanne Ferguson Cavanaugh (Branch Manager)

Joanne Ferguson Cavanaugh, Branch Manager of the Charles B. Washington Branch, appeared and spoke. She discussed the history of Charles B. Washington and his involvement in the community, as well as the history of, and current happenings at, the Branch.

**TRUSTEE SUAREZ-DELGADO ENTERS THE MEETING AT 5:05 P.M.**

**INFORMATIONAL REPORT**

4. [Omaha Reads 2018 title selection](#) – Amy Wenzl (Youth Services Librarian)

Amy Wenzl, Youth Services Librarian at the Charles B. Washington Branch, on behalf of the Well-Read Collective, appeared and spoke. Ms. Wenzl stated that Omaha Public Library invites the community to vote for and read one book as a way to promote literacy and inspire discussion among Omaha metro patrons. This year's selection is "The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas. Ms. Wenzl spoke about the selection, adding that there are multiple free programs for patrons to participate in.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

President Wang stated that any person who has been invited to speak or has requested to speak before the Trustees is requested to be brief and to limit his or her comments to five minutes or less, after identifying themselves by name and address for public record. When more than one person wishes to address the Trustees on a Consent Agenda item or Resolution, the proponents will be invited to speak first, followed by the opponents. The proponents will be given a brief period for rebuttal of any new information presented during the opponent's presentation, after which public comments will be concluded. Trustees will ask any questions at the conclusion of any public comments, prior to voting. The President, or presiding officer, may use reasonable discretion to limit or extend a speaker's time to avoid redundancy, to assure a thorough public discussion on matters before the Board, and to end discussion.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

President Wang stated that any Trustee may remove any item from the Consent Agenda to be addressed by the Board immediately following. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board. Public comment and Board approval is today.

### 5. **[Approval of minutes – July 18, 2018](#)**

President Wang opened the public comment period on Agenda Item 5.

No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

**MOTION by Kennedy, SECOND by Frost, that Agenda Item 5 (Approval of minutes – July 18, 2018) be approved.**

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Creighton, Frost, Kennedy, Korf, Lutz, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang

Nays: None

**MOTION APPROVED 8-0**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Public comment and Board approval is today.

### 6. **[Approval of revised Holiday and Closing Dates for 2018](#)**

President Wang opened the public comment period on Agenda Item 6.

No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

**MOTION by Kennedy, SECOND by Sullivan, that Agenda Item 6 (Approval of revised Holiday and Closing Dates for 2018) be approved.**

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Creighton, Frost, Kennedy, Korf, Lutz, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang

Nays: None

**MOTION APPROVED 8-0**

7. **Approval of Holiday and Closing Dates for 2019**

President Wang opened the public comment period on Agenda Item 7.

No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

**MOTION by Kennedy, SECOND by Sullivan, that Agenda Item 7 (Approval of Holiday and Closing Dates for 2019) be approved.**

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Creighton, Frost, Kennedy, Korf, Lutz, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang

Nays: None

**MOTION APPROVED 8-0**

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

8. **Finance Committee** (Suarez-Delgado [Chair], Sullivan, Korf)

None.

9. **Facilities Committee** (Kennedy [Chair], Davis, Lutz)

Kennedy stated that the Facilities Committee is looking to have a representative from Heritage Services speak at a future Board of Trustees' meeting regarding the Riverfront Revitalization Project.

President Wang stated that a letter was received offering to donate ten acres of land that adjoins the Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch. She stated that there are discussions occurring at this time concerning the logistics.

10. **Community Engagement Committee** (Wang [Chair], Creighton, Frost)

Frost stated that she would like to know what the role of the Board is, and also learn more about libraries and Library Science from the professionals. She would like some training for the Board, to possibly include what is happening in other libraries and municipalities, and what our own community would like in a library of the future.

President Wang stated that she and Ms. Marlane spoke about this and are planning on having short ten to fifteen minute presentations about various facets of the Library at each Board meeting. Ms. Marlane will reach out to all of the Board members to get feedback on what each member would like to learn more about.

**REPORTS**

11. **Friends of Omaha Public Library** – Jeanne Spence (President)

None.

12. **Omaha Public Library Foundation** – Wendy Townley (Executive Director)

Wendy Townley, Executive Director of the Omaha Public Library Foundation (Foundation), appeared and spoke. She stated that the Foundation’s fundraiser is on Wednesday, September 26th at the Institute of Culinary Arts at Metropolitan Community College. The special guest is Amy Thielen. On the night prior (Tuesday, September 25th), Ms. Thielen will speak at a free event for area high school and college students, and educators, at The Venue at The Highlander.

13. **Director’s Report** – Laura Marlane (Executive Director)

Ms. Marlane appeared and spoke, highlighting some key points from her Report.

14. **Board President’s Report** – Carol Wang (President)

None.

15. **Library Liaison Reports** – Library Trustees

None.

**PUBLIC INPUT, COMMENTS, AND QUESTIONS**

President Wang stated that any member of the public may address the Board on a topic of relevance to the Omaha Public Library, after identifying themselves by name and address for public record. Trustees may engage in questions and discussion of any topic presented, but any desired action will be placed on a future agenda.

16. **Input, Comments, and Questions**

President Wang opened the public comment period on Agenda Item 16.

No one spoke, and the public comment period was closed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

17. The Board may recess and go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, personnel issues, and/or any other matter allowed by law.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Kennedy, SECOND by Sullivan, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.**

Yeas: Creighton, Frost, Kennedy, Korf, Lutz, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang

Nays: None

**MOTION APPROVED 8-0**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:45 P.M.**

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Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary

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Adrian Suarez-Delgado, Secretary