

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

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 @ 5:00 P.M.  
Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch – 2100 Reading Plaza



**CALL TO ORDER**

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at the Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch, 2100 Reading Plaza (Elkhorn). President Wang called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

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

**PRESENT:** Caitlin Davis  
Michele Frost  
Keegan Korf  
Keith Lutz  
Carol Wang, President  
Laura Marlane, Executive Director, Omaha Public Library (Non-voting)

**ABSENT:** Mike Kennedy  
Cecelia Creighton

**ABSENT ENTIRE MEETING:** Adrian Suarez-Delgado, Secretary-Treasurer  
Jesse Sullivan, Vice-President

**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 September 12, 2018.

**TRUSTEE CREIGHTON ENTERS THE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.**

**BRANCH REPORT**

3. [Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch](#) – Sarah VanRaden (Branch Manager)

Sarah VanRaden, Branch Manager of the Bess Johnson Elkhorn Branch, appeared and spoke. She stated that she was recently promoted to Senior Manager of Branch Services, but will be filling in as needed. She continued by discussing specifics about the Branch, such as the type of patrons frequenting the location and the collections.

**TRUSTEE KENNEDY ENTERS THE MEETING AT 5:04 P.M.**

**INFORMATIONAL REPORT**

4. **Well-Read Collective** – Erin Duerr (Readers & Writers Librarian)

Erin Duerr, Readers & Writers Librarian, appeared and spoke. She stated that she manages a team called the Well-Read Collective, which can be described as a ‘street team’ for everything that is done at the Library. The team officially launched in January 2018 and currently has ten members. The team writes book reviews and creates read-alike lists and custom reading lists. More information can be found on the Omaha Public Library [website](#).

## **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 – August 15, 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 Davis, that Agenda Item 5 (Approval of minutes – August 15, 2018) be approved.**

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Davis, Frost, Kennedy, Korf, Lutz, Creighton, Wang

Nays: None

**MOTION APPROVED 7-0**

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

None.

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

Kennedy asked when the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds would be released to the Library, and Ms. Marlane stated she would inquire. Having the funds released early would allow for the Library to at least complete an RFP for the new southwest branch.

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

None.

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## **REPORTS**

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

Jeanne Spence, President of the Friends of Omaha Public Library, appeared and spoke, highlighting some key points from her report.

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

Wendy Townley, Executive Director of the Omaha Public Library Foundation, appeared and spoke. She stated that the Foundation's fundraiser is next Wednesday, September 26th, featuring Amy Thielen. Tickets are still available for anyone wanting to purchase.

11. **Director's Report** – Laura Marlane (Executive Director)

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

12. **Board President's Report** – Carol Wang (President)

None.

13. **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.

14. **Input, Comments, and Questions**

President Wang opened the public comment period on Agenda Item 14.

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

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

15. 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.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Yeas: Davis, Frost, Kennedy, Korf, Lutz, Creighton, Wang

Nays: None

**MOTION APPROVED 7-0**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:34 P.M.**

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Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary

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Adrian Suarez-Delgado, Secretary