

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

Wednesday, April 17, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.
Benson Branch Library – 6015 Binney Street



CALL TO ORDER

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at the Benson Branch, 6015 Binney Street (Omaha). President Wang called the meeting to order at 5:06 P.M.

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

PRESENT: Cecelia Creighton
Michele Frost
Mike Kennedy
Keegan Korf
Adrian Suarez-Delgado, Secretary-Treasurer
Carol Wang, President
Laura Marlane, Executive Director, Omaha Public Library (Non-voting)

ABSENT: Keith Lutz

ABSENT ENTIRE MEETING: Caitlin Davis
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 April 12, 2019.

BRANCH REPORT

3. [Benson Branch Library](#) – Karen Pietsch (Branch Manager)

Karen Pietsch, Branch Manager of the Benson Branch, appeared and spoke. She discussed the history of the Branch, and highlighted services and projects that the Branch participates in.

TRUSTEE LUTZ ENTERS THE MEETING AT 5:07 P.M.

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.

4. [Approval of minutes – January 16, 2019](#) (*Over from 2/20/2019 and 3/20/2019*)
5. [Approval of minutes – March 8, 2019](#) (*Over from 3/20/2019*)

President Wang opened the public comment period on the Consent Agenda.

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

MOTION by Kennedy, SECOND by Frost, that the Consent Agenda (Agenda Item 4 – Approval of minutes – January 16, 2019; and Agenda Item 5 – Approval of minutes – March 8, 2019) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

None.

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

President Wang stated that the Mayor will be authorizing the Library to begin the RFP process for the new southwest branch.

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

President Wang stated that at the next Board meeting, it is anticipated that the Trustees will go into Executive Session to discuss and work through the evaluations for the Executive Director. Evaluations from staff and others were emailed out. If anyone is unable to attend the May Board meeting, please let President Wang or Ms. Garcia know.

9. **Policy Committee** (Creighton, Frost, Korf)

Korf stated that the Policy Committee is working hard, and is moving through the policy reviews fairly quickly. Ms. Marlane added that Frost created a policy template to create uniformity amongst all of the current policies, and any future policies approved. The Board will vote on re-approval of all of the policies once the Committee is finished with the reviewing.

REPORTS

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

Jeanne Spence, President of Friends of Omaha Public Library, appeared and spoke. She highlighted the year-to-date book sales, and gave a condensed explanation of the differences between Friends of Omaha Public Library and Omaha Public Library Foundation.

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

Wendy Townley, Executive Director of Omaha Public Library Foundation, appeared and spoke. She gave updates regarding the Foundation.

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

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

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

A. Nominations for Board Officers

President Wang stated that she asked for nominations for Board Officers, and the following nominations were received:

- President: Wang
- Vice-President: Suarez-Delgado
- Secretary-Treasurer: Korf

If anyone else would like to be considered for a Board Officer position, please let President Wang know. Voting for the Board Officer positions will occur at the May meeting so that the Officers are in place at the June meeting.

14. **Library Liaison Reports** – Library Trustees

Suarez-Delgado stated that he and his family attended the Storybook Land event at Saddlebrook Branch on Sunday, April 7. He and his family enjoyed the event, and there was a great turnout.

Korf stated that she likes the new self-check machines.

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.

15. **Input, Comments, and Questions**

President Wang opened the public comment period of Agenda Item 15.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

16. 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 Suarez-Delgado, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:46 P.M.

Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary

Adrian Suarez-Delgado, Secretary