

OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES



Thursday, March 18, 2021 @ 5:00 P.M.
Millard Branch Library – 13214 Westwood Lane

CALL TO ORDER

The Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees met on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at the Millard Branch Library, 13214 Westwood Lane (Omaha). President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:07 P.M.

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

PRESENT: John Barrett
Keegan Korf, Vice-President
Adrian Suarez-Delgado
Jesse Sullivan
Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer
Kristin Williams (Entered at 5:18 P.M.)
Mike Kennedy, President
Laura Marlane, Executive Director, Omaha Public Library (Non-voting)

ABSENT ENTIRE MEETING: Michael Alley
Keith Lutz

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION – NOTIFICATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

President Kennedy stated that the meeting is held in accordance with the [Nebraska Open Meetings Act](#), a copy of which is available on the table and on the wall. The Library certified [publication](#) of the meeting in the Daily Record, the Official Newspaper of the City of Omaha, on March 12, 2021.

President Kennedy requested that Agenda Item 14 be moved up on the agenda.

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Korf, that Agenda Item 14 (Input, Comments, and Questions) be moved up on the agenda.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 6-0

PUBLIC INPUT, COMMENTS, AND QUESTIONS

President Kennedy 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 Kennedy opened up the public comment period on Agenda Item 14.

The following persons appeared and spoke regarding the public use of the Benson Branch parking lot during and after library hours:

City Councilman Pete Festersen, District 1
Kenneth Smith, City Parking & Mobility Manager
Kevin Andersen, Mayor's Office

TRUSTEE WILLIAMS ENTERED THE MEETING AT 5:18 P.M.

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

ACTION ITEMS

President Kennedy 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 Kennedy 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.

3. **[Approval of minutes – February 18, 2021](#)**

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

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

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Williams, that the Consent Agenda (Agenda Item 3 – Approval of minutes – February 18, 2021) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, Williams, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

RESOLUTIONS

President Kennedy stated that public comment and Board approval is today.

4. **[Res. 2021-02 Approval of elimination of daily overdue late fines](#)**

President Kennedy opened the public comment period on Agenda Item 4.

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

MOTION by Korf, SECOND by Williams, that Agenda Item 4 (Res. 2021-02 Approval of elimination of daily overdue late fines) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, Williams, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

5. **[Res. 2021-03 Approval of temporary closure at W. Clarke Swanson Branch for new flooring installation](#)**

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

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

MOTION by Wang, SECOND by Korf, that Agenda Item 5 (Res. 2021-03 Approval of temporary closure at W. Clarke Swanson Branch for new flooring installation) be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, Williams, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. **[Finance Committee](#)** – Korf (Chair), Kennedy, Sullivan

None.

7. **[Facilities Committee](#)** – Wang (Chair), Alley, Lutz

None.

8. **[Community Engagement Committee](#)** – Suarez-Delgado (Chair), Barrett, Williams

None.

REPORTS

9. **[Friends of Omaha Public Library](#)** – Brian Overton (President)

None.

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

Wendy Townley, Executive Director of the Omaha Public Library Foundation, appeared and spoke. She highlighted key points in her report, including the selection of the author for the annual fundraiser occurring on Tuesday, October 5, 2021.

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

Ms. Marlane appeared and spoke. She highlighted key points in her report.

12. **Board President's Report** – Mike Kennedy (President)

None.

13. **Library Liaison Reports** – Library Trustees

Korf stated that she attended the [Virtual Book Bash](#) on Thursday, February 25, 2021 and was extremely impressed with the entire event. Korf continued that the [Common Soil Seed Library](#) is up and available for all patrons to utilize.

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 Wang, SECOND by Barrett, that the meeting of the Omaha Public Library Board of Trustees be adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Barrett, Korf, Suarez-Delgado, Sullivan, Wang, Williams, President Kennedy

Nays: None

MOTION APPROVED 7-0

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:00 P.M.

Jenna L. Garcia, Recording Secretary

Jen Rae Wang, Secretary-Treasurer