

Lawton Public Library Board Meeting

Wednesday August 2, 2023

The Lawton Public Library Board met at 4:00 pm in Meeting Room 1 at the Lawton Public Library.

Notice of the meeting and agenda was posted in accordance with Oklahoma law.

The meeting was called to order by Patty Neuwirth, Chair.

Roll Call: Patty Neuwirth, Chair; Sue Kremmer, Vice Chair; Frantzie Couch, Member (Absent); Ellouise Love, Member (Absent); Fermin Viruet, Member (Absent); Jenny Breeden, Friends Representative (Absent); Kristin Herr, Library Director (Absent); Kathy Hines, Deputy Library Director; Megan Stockton, Administrative Assistant; Randy Warren, City Council Liaison (Absent); Amber Follett, Family and Local History Librarian, Katie Hall, Librarian I, P.K. Erickson, Guest

The Chair, Patty Neuwirth, noted the absence of a quorum and declared only informative matters could be communicated.

No motion was made to approve the Library Board minutes for the June 7, 2023 meeting.

Kathy Hines introduced Katie Hall, the new Librarian I, to the Board. Katie spoke some about herself and the Board introduced themselves.

Amber Follett presented information about the Talking Trails grant and project. Amber stated that there are twenty-four confirmed sites, ten edited scripts, and twenty-two blurbs submitted. Amber announced that three entities have chosen to sponsor some signs.

No customer comments were presented to the Board.

The Financial Report was given. The final financials for the last fiscal year were presented to the Board. Kathy informed the Board that grant money had rolled over into the new year. Kathy stated that the Library had received money in the budget to pay for a part-time security guard. Kathy also reported that the Library had only received thirty-five thousand dollars in book money this year, a decrease from previous years.

The Library Director's Report was given. Kathy informed the Board of the recent power outages and air conditioning woes in the Library. Kathy notified the Board that City employees had received a pay raise with the minimum pay being raised as well. Kathy also briefed the Board on the various personnel changes. These include a new Community Engagement Associate, a new Librarian I, and two new Library Assistants.

The Friends of the Library report was given. Patty stated that the recent Chautauqua performances are now up on the Friends Vimeo account. Patty also described the recent Friends quarterly meeting as a successful.

The SWOGS/Family History report was given. Amber reported that SWOGS would only meet three times a year rather than monthly. The meetings will take place in March, June, and

September. Amber also informed the Board of an upcoming Southwestern Oklahoma Historical Society event with the Oklahoma State Poet Laureate as a guest.

There was nothing to report for City Council.

Unfinished Business:

- Kathy informed the Board of the status of various grants.
 - Kathy stated that there is a digitization grant in the works.
 - Kathy announced that the Online High School grant program has had nine graduates thus far.
 - Kathy presented the Charlie Cart, a mobile cooking station, to the Board as part of the NNLM grant.
 - Kathy notified the Board that the Library would be applying for another Health Literacy grant to purchase and install more bicycle repair stations in town.
- The Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy was tabled as no vote could be made.

New Business:

- The Annual Report was sent to the Board members via email.
- Kathy informed the Board of some of the highlights from the At A Glance.
 - A large amount of statistics are on the rise.
 - The total number of customers has dropped a bit.
- The FY23 statistics were presented to the Board.
- The updated organization chart was presented to the Board.
 - Kathy stated that the changes on the chart stem from the recent pay raises and the moving of the janitor to the Library department.
- The incident reports for the past six months were presented to the Board.
- Kathy explained the Library's new appointment as a durable medical equipment donation site.

There were no comments from the floor.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 pm./Megan Stockton, Administrative Assistant III