

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
WASHINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
October 23, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Witt, who led the Pledge. Members present included: Leanne Gisburne, Doug Holdmeyer, Jamie Holtmeier, Katie Schonaerts, Barbara Volmert, Sue Wehmueller, Carolyn Witt, Chad Briggs, and Joe Holtmeier. Also in attendance was Antjea Wolff of the Missourian.

Doug moved that the agenda and minutes be approved. Motion seconded by Leanne and the motion carried.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT: The friends are going to continue to fund the libraries in the Senior Homes. This program is successful and well-received. This is in partnership with the Community Literacy Foundation.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Statistics and Collections: September 2023 statistics are attached. Results are very similar to 2022.

Facilities: Nelson explained that there is a drainage issue in City Hall that may result in digging underneath the Children's Garden area of the library. The plans to install instruments in that area will have to wait. Some teens after school hours are creating messes in the study rooms. Staff are monitoring the situation.

Budget/Staffing: September 30 marked the end of the fiscal year. Staff received their raises with the last paycheck. The library sent three staff to the MLA event, including two newer staff, to gain library education experience.

Technology/Communications: Nelson ordered new monitors from NOC Technologies to proceed with the upgrading of the public computers funded by the Friends of the Library. An installation date has not yet been set.

Programs: In 2024 the library will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. Many special programs are in the works to be held throughout the entire year. The Missouri Book Festival organizing committee has started meeting monthly in preparation for the festival in 2024. Last year over 3,000 people attended.

September re-cap:

- Adult Ghost Paint – Sept. 26th
- The Fall Lecture Series ended with good attendance and feedback asking for more of this type of programming.
- Run to Read – Oct. 14th

- Scary Stuffed Animal Sleepover – Oct. 20th, over 100 people attended with 50 stuffed animals sleeping over.

Upcoming Events:

- Wunderlust Chocolates – Oct. 24th
- Haunted House Scavenger Hunt – Oct. 27th
- Friends of the Library Author Event, Katherine Schweit “Stop the Killing” – Nov. 16th.
- Children’s Turkey Bingo – Nov. 22nd

Sue moved that the director’s report be accepted, seconded by Katie. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There will be no meeting in December as the required 10 meetings have been held in 2023.

There being no further business, Jaime moved that the meeting be adjourned. Leanne seconded the motion, which carried.

NEXT MEETING: January 22, 2024