

## MINUTES

### **Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – May 18, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. online.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Kemper, President  
Laura Dominik  
Pete Browne  
Susie Kenney  
Michelle Smirnova  
Denesha Snell  
India Williams

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Claudia Oñate Greim  
Billie Howard Barnes

STAFF PRESENT: John Herron, Chief Executive  
Jensen Adams, Energy and Sustainability Officer  
Jessica Addo, Administrative Officer  
Amanda Barnhart, North-East Branch Manager  
Janice Bolin, Director of Finance  
Amy Brost, Manager of Special Projects  
Carrie Coogan, Deputy Director for Public Affairs and  
Community Engagement  
Crystal Faris, Director of Youth & Family Engagement  
Joel Jones, Deputy Director of Library Services  
Dawn Mackey, Technical Services Manager  
Mary Olive Joyce, Director of Library Outreach & Community  
Engagement  
Heather Pedersen, Executive Assistant / Manager of Executive  
Services  
Margaret Perkins-McGuinness, Deputy Director for Philanthropy  
Debbie Siragusa, Assistant Director / Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Stoppello, Director of Library Collections  
Kaite Stover, Director of Reader's Services  
Karen Weitzel, Director of Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Brown

Kemper called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

**Motion by Dominik to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2021 Regular Board meeting, May 10, 2021 Operations Committee Meeting, and May 12, 2021 Special Board meeting. Second by Browne. Approved unanimously.**

(Note: As a matter of Board convention, the Chair votes only when his/her vote would affect the outcome of the vote. In all "recorded" votes, the vote of the Chair appears only when it has actually been cast and when it has had an effect on the disposition of the motion. Notations of "approved unanimously" mean all members, other than the Chair, voting affirmatively.)

Dominik reported on the May 10<sup>th</sup> Operations Committee meeting.

**Motion by Dominik to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Browne. Approved unanimously.** The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to authorize the following expenditures for April 2021: Payroll (04/22/21 net cash \$250,486 plus taxes \$94,682) and (05/06/21 net cash \$251,162 plus taxes \$95,522) total amount of \$691,852; General Expense Payments including Checks (#5388-5566), in the amount of \$1,156,542. (LBM 4483)**

**Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for April 2021. (LBM 4484)**

Siragusa provided an overview of the surplus for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2021 and the suggested adjustments. **Motion by Dominik to adopt a revised 2020-2021 Library Operating Budget General Fund of \$22,429,629 and approve changes in transfers noted on the attached schedules. Second by Smirnova. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4485)**

Herron introduced Crystal Faris, Director of Youth & Family Engagement, who discussed the Summer Reading and Learning Program. Faris noted that the Summer Reading Program is for all ages – children, teens, and adults. Events this year will include Pop in at the Park, Kids Café, Harvester’s meal bus, Kansas City Public Schools, hands on STEAM activities Tails on the Trail at Gilham and Sunnyside Park, Camp ReadMOre, and experiences designed by the Teen Leaders of Today and Team Digital. The expanded opportunities are due to the support of the Hall Foundation and a LSTA grant. Faris described the numbers, surveys, and methods of evaluation that will be used. Stover shared that authors from Missouri are being featured on the suggested reading list for adults.

Herron discussed the Director’s Report with the Board. (LBM 4486) Herron introduced Mike Brown from Brainzooming to present their proposal for the Library’s strategic visioning process. Brown discussed the objectives and approach which would be used to facilitate the process and solicit input from diverse stakeholders and sources. The Board discussed the challenges of the digital divide to reaching many of our community members and stakeholders, the need to include methods for soliciting input from those who are not library users or who are underrepresented, and the importance of ensuring that diversity, equity, and inclusion are part of the process.

Snell left 5:31 p.m.

Kemper asked the Board to review a list of questions for the Library shared prior to the meeting and offer input regarding other issues for consideration.

**Motion by Browne to adjourn. Second by Smirnova. Approved unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

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Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date