

MINUTES

Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – March 21, 2023

The Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library, pursuant to official notification, met Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. at the Central Library.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete Browne, President
Billie Howard Barnes
Laura Dominik
Claudia Oñate Greim
Jonathan Kemper
Susie Kenney
India Williams
Michelle Smirnova
Denesha Snell

STAFF PRESENT: John Herron, Chief Executive
Jensen Adams, Energy and Sustainability Officer
Jessica Addo, Purchasing Manager
Courtney Christensen, Philanthropy Department Administrator
and Project Specialist
Carrie Coogan, Deputy Director for Public Affairs and
Community Engagement
Michael Daly, AV Supervisor
Brianna Daniels, Administrative Officer
Crystal Faris, Deputy Director of Youth and Family Engagement
Angela Fencl, Director of Finance
Kim Gile, Branch Services and Engagement Director
Joel Jones, Deputy Director of Library Services
David LaCrone, Digital Branch Manager
Mary Olive Joyce, Director of Library Outreach & Community
Engagement
Dawn Mackey, Technical Services Manager
Kiri Palm, Plaza Branch Manager
Heather Pedersen, Executive Assistant / Manager of Executive
Services
Beccah Rendall, Library VISTA Project Manager
Amanda Rodriguez, North-East Branch Manager
Debbie Siragusa, Assistant Director / Chief Operating Officer
Jeni Starr, Health & Wellness Specialist
Debbie Stoppello, Director of Library Collections
Kaite Stover, Director of Reader's Services
Anthony Trakas, Finance Manager

Karen Weitzel, Chief People Officer

Browne called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Motion by Kemper to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2023, Regular Board meeting and March 6, 2023, Building Oversight Committee meeting. Second by Dominik. 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.)

Motion by Dominik to approve the Consent Agenda items before the Board. Second by Kenney. 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 February 2023: Payroll (2/9/23 net cash \$309,347 plus taxes \$107,218) and (2/23/23 net cash \$316,375 plus taxes \$110,988) total amount of \$843,928; General Expense Payments including Checks (#10060-10263), in the amount of \$1,353,124. (LBM 4611)

Move approval of the recommendation of the Chief Executive to accept the attached financial reports for February 2023 (LBM 4612)

Discussing the nonbinding tax levy (LBM 4613), Siragusa shared that 2023 is a reassessment year and Jackson County has reported that overall residential property assessments in the County are going up an estimated 30%. The County is expecting 30,000-40,000 protests this year, primarily on the residential side, and they are providing additional resources to help taxpayers understand their property taxes and options for protesting, including sending out a preliminary statement of value and setting up informational meetings.

Motion by Dominik to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to informally project the Library's nonbinding tax levy for tax year 2023 pursuant to the provisions of Section 137.243(1) RSMo. Second by Kenney. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4613)

Motion by Dominik to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to ratify and approve the purchase of catering services from Dutzel's Catering at an amount not to exceed \$107,000. Second by Kemper. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4614)

Motion by Dominik to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to ratify and approve the purchase of video production services from Zimmerman Productions at an amount not to exceed \$57,000. Second by Kemper. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4615)

Motion by Dominik to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to contract with the Center for Trauma Informed Innovation at University Health (“UH”) for peer navigator services at a cost not to exceed \$75,000. Second by Kemper. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4616)

Motion by Kenney to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to contract with Code Koalas for web development and maintenance services at a cost not to exceed \$81,000. Second by Dominik. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4617)

Motion by Kenney to approve the recommendation of the Chief Executive to purchase five study pods from John A. Marshall to be placed at Bluford, Central, Plaza, and Trails West at a cost not to exceed \$145,000. Second by Dominik. Approved unanimously. (LBM 4618)

Herron discussed the Director’s Report with the Board (LBM 4619) and highlighted that Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II created a Congressional Record to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Westport Branch.

Coogan, Faris, and Christensen gave an update on the plans for the Library’s 150th Celebration and the Heartland Book Festival: Find Your Story. Coogan gave a short list of speakers who will potentially participate in events throughout 2024 as part of the 150th Celebration. Christensen spoke on the status of a variety of community partnerships with library themed items, including ice cream, cocktails and mocktails, coffee, and foods. Christensen also shared details on the Heartland Book Festival keynote event, including the keynote speaker, Jermain Fowler, author of *The Humanity Archive*, and highlighted the many activities going on downtown for the festival.

Williams arrived at 5:19 p.m. Oñate Greim arrived at the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Motion by Dominik to adjourn and take a tour of the 3 North space. Second by Kenney. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Secretary

Date