

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD ON

February 12, 2024

A regular meeting of the Library Board of Directors of the Kanawha County Public Library was held on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 4:00 PM via Zoom and in-person in the board room at New Main.

The following Board members were present for the meeting:

Mr. J. Auge	Mr. L. Moore
Mr. C. Erlewine	Ms. A. Silbernagel
Ms. S. Haden	Ms. D. Sonis
Mr. J. Jarrett	Dr. K. Sullivan
Mr. J. Holiday	Ms. C. Tawney
Mr. T. Hurney	Mr. B. Thomas
Ms. B. King	Dr. R. Wallace

KCPL staff members present were Ms. Sarah Mitchell, Ms. Marsha Alford, Ms. Adele Thumm, Mr. Stan Howell, Ms. Marian Veld, Ms. Terri McDougal, and Mr. Michael Polak.

Others in attendance were Mr. Christopher Winton, library counsel, and Jennifer Heldman, Perry and Associates.

Mr. Thomas presided over the meeting and called it to order at 4:00 p.m. The assistant director served as Secretary.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion made, seconded, and ADOPTED, the minutes of the regular Board meeting on January 8, 2024, were approved as distributed in the Board Packet.

Director's Report

Assistant Director Ms. Mitchell presented the Director's Report. She returned to the meeting from the state capitol where HB 4654 made its second appearance in the Judiciary committee.

HB 4654 will remove legal protections from Public Libraries and Museums and could lead to library employees being criminally charged for displaying obscene materials to the minors.

If the bill does pass in the House, the West Virginia Library Association will begin working with contacts in the Senate.

Ms. Alford announced that the 2024 Staff Development Day is scheduled for March 20th. All Board members are invited to attend for some or all of the program.

There will be a presentation from the Library's Employee Assistance Provider New Horizons. KCPL's partnership allows three free mental health sessions per year to all employees.

The Awards assembly is scheduled for 2:45 p.m. This year Ms. Pam Reger will celebrate her 55th year as a KCPL employee.

Action Items

1.)

Mr. Hurney introduced a resolution from the Finance Committee regarding the new process of check signing from the KCPL operations account. The Kanawha County Board of Education now grants KCPL the authority to sign and cut its own checks pertaining to the operations of the Library. The BOE still covers all payroll services for employees.

In discussion, Mr. Winton suggested added language to clarify responsibilities of the signatories. Second Vice-President, Ms. King was also added as a fourth signee from the Board of Directors.

With these changes, the following resolution was APPROVED unanimously by the Board of Directors —

RESOLVED, that the following Kanawha County Public Library staff and board members be added as signees to the General Operations Account:

Erika Connelly, KCPL Director

Adele Thumm, KCPL Assistant Director of Finances

Benjamin Thomas, President of the KCPL Board of Directors

Stephanie Haden, Vice-President of the KCPL Board of Directors;

Betty King, Second Vice President of the KCPL Board of Directors; and

Christopher Erlewine, Vice- Chair of the KCPL Board of Directors Financial Affairs Committee;
and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Kanawha County Public Library Board of Directors authorizes these individuals to sign checks and any further agreed resolutions and appropriate forms put forth by the bank on behalf of the Library.

2.)

Dr. Sullivan presented a final edit of the Long-Range Plan to the Board of Directors. He reviewed changes around language that caused concern in the last Board meeting regarding the first priority of the document.

Priority one now reads “Promptly plan and pursue the construction of an Eastern Kanawha County Regional Library.”

Mr. Thomas added that while the window of “five-year” is no longer included “promptly means promptly.”

Without further discussion the Long-Range Plan for 2024-2029 was APPROVED as distributed in the Board Packet by an unanimous vote by the Board of Directors.

Reports of Committees

1.) Personnel

Ms. King explained that Ms. Connelly and Ms. Alford selected a new attorney to review the Library's Personnel Policies. Justin Harrison, of Jackson Kelly, will review the packet. He expects to have a four-week turn around.

2.) Library Foundation of Kanawha County

On behalf of Foundation Board President, Mr. Bryan Cokeley, Mr. Thomas presented Mr. Bill Aubel as a new candidate for the Foundation Board.

The Board approved the following resolution unanimously —

RESOLVED, that William J. Aubel be approved as a member of the Library of Kanawha County Board for a six-year term expiring Jan 1, 2030.

New Business

Mr. Thomas assigned the priorities of the document to the following committees.

Priority One, regarding the construction of a new branch library for the Eastern Region of Kanawha County, is the focus of the special Eastern Kanawha Committee of the Board of Directors.

Priority Two, regarding a professional study of library needs of the county will be the focus of the Public Services Committee of the Board of Directors.

Finally priority three, regarding continued improvement of staff compensation will be the focus of the Personnel Committee.

Mr. Thomas noted that the Executive Session planned on the Agenda for the meeting is presently unnecessary. "Potentially sensitive contractual matters regarding the sale of KCPL lot properties did not manifest themselves in time for discussion at this meeting."

Ms. King, on behalf of the WV Symphony, thanked the Children's Department for their work in helping promote the Symphony Passport program. She reported that by far the largest amount of passports taken at Saturday's (February 10th) "Great Movie Soundtracks" program at the Clay Center originated in the KCPL children's department.

Ms. Silbernagel offered her congratulations to Mr. Moore for being named the new Vice-Principal at Capital High School.

There being no further of business, a motion was made to adjourn this meeting. Motion was seconded, and the meeting ADJOURNED at 4:47 PM.