

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Chairman Tom Callahan.

In attendance were Chairman Tom Callahan, Vice Chairman Martin Valadez, Secretary Louise Matzner, and Board members Ashley Coronado, Sandra LePage, and Doug Wadsworth. Board member Susan Paysse was absent and excused.

Also in attendance were Executive Director Kyle Cox, Operations Director Erin Meneely, Collections and Services Director Michael Huff and Executive Assistant Valerie Loffler.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Louise Matzner moved to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Sandy LePage and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ashley Coronado moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Tom Callahan and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMSApproval of Minutes

The Board approved the Minutes from the meeting of July 16, 2019.

Treasurer's Report

General Fund – \$2,793,417.72

Library Capital Reserve Fund – \$1,514,474.60

Stroh Fund - \$200,861.31

Approval of Payroll

The Board ratified the Chairman's signature for payroll check number 29322 and direct deposit numbers RA-1001337 through RA-1001459 in the amount of \$243,043.32 dated August 9, 2019.

Approval of Accounts Payable Checks

The Board ratified the Chairman's signature for Accounts Payable check numbers 36499 through 36702 in the amount of \$516,682.49 and an EFT in the amount of \$370.43.

Surplus Property

1,979 library materials were declared surplus as of July 31, 2019. The items were worn out, obsolete or no longer needed.

Surplus Equipment and Furniture

Surplus computers and other miscellaneous equipment were declared surplus. The Executive Director was authorized to sell or dispose of in a manner deemed appropriate.

Bad Debt Write-Off

The Board ratified the signature of the Board Chairman for write-off of bad debts covering the period of

07/01/2012 through 07/31/2012 in the amount of \$6,417.46 and outstanding bad debts for customer balances of less than \$25.00 in the amount of \$6,662.10. The total bad debt write-off for July 2019 is \$13,079.56.

SYSTEM REPORT

Executive Director Kyle Cox reported he's waiting for real data from the MyTri2030 study. Staff participated in workshops on quality of life, inclusion, and education. He wants to use this information to focus our long term planning.

Mr. Cox will be the main speaker at the statewide public libraries symposium on the future of libraries.

He further reported he met with Pasco School District Superintendent Michelle Whitney on how to improve the level of cooperation with the district. He shared information with her about the schools in Indiana successfully partnering with libraries. Resource sharing and having one point of contact for purchasing creates a huge opportunity.

One of two big themes in the next number of years is partnering with the schools to focus on the common mission to get kids ready for and succeeding in school. Mr. Cox is looking forward to meeting with the incoming superintendent in Kennewick.

Mr. Cox will also be attending the district-wide librarians meetings.

Prosser Friends of the Library presented their proposal for an outdoor learning center at the Prosser branch to the Prosser City Council workshop meeting.

Operations Director Erin Meneely reported the Othello branch reopened August 9 after being closed due to a cracked waterline. Staff operated out of city hall for a few hours each day and used the city park for storytimes. The public appreciated the effort.

Staff also had lunch in Yakima with Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress. MCL was invited by Congressman Newhouse. They had a very substantive discussion on policy issues and how the Library of Congress can help public libraries.

Mr. Cox also addressed the embargos with eBook publishers. It's a big issue right now. Vendors are restricting how libraries can purchase eBooks. The concern is over 40 percent of eBook downloads come from libraries.

Collections and Services Director Michael Huff said they've watched over a number of years the changes in how things are sold. The publishers are figuring out how to work with libraries and still make money.

Chairman Callahan asked about remodeling the Kennewick branch because several people have talked to him about it.

Mr. Cox responded that the next two are Keewaydin and Kennewick. Keewaydin is running out of office space. MCL would have to work with the city to do a bond for Kennewick. It'll be expensive to remodel Kennewick.

EDUCATION REPORT

Elissa Burnley, communications relations manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation on her recommendations for the future of MCL:

- Continue to invest heavily in eBooks and digital audiobooks. Some print budget should be moved to digital offerings;
- Revamp staffing roles to better fit the emerging needs of the library system and community;
- Start beta-testing self-service hours at branches whose hours are more limited and expand curbside service to more branches;
- Remodel branches to include theater areas, meeting and conference spaces, covered outdoor areas, cafes, dog-friendly areas, children interactive spaces, exhibit structures, art-hanging apparatus, etc.; and
- Put more money into programming resources and prepare for programming spaces in remodels.

Chairman Callahan complimented Ms. Burnley on her impressive presentation.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 2019-03: Honoring the Service of Ashley Coronado

Board member Ashley Coronado is moving outside the district and has submitted her resignation.

Chairman Callahan read Resolution 2019-03. The resolution was adopted by unanimous consent.

Chairman Callahan thanked Ms. Coronado on her dedication.

SELECTION OF INTERVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr. Callahan asked for volunteers to serve on an interview committee. Louise Matzner and Sandy LePage volunteered. Ms. LePage suggested Board member Susan Paysse could join the committee because of her human resources background. The executive assistant will contact Ms. Paysse.

The vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Coronado will be advertised this weekend and applications will be accepted until September 2.

BOARD COMMENTS

Louise Matzner announced Prosser has a new mural downtown next to the Princess Theater that displays books.

The next Governance Committee meeting is Friday, September 7, 2019, at 9 am.

The next Board meeting is September 17, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.


Valerie Loffler, Executive Assistant

Approved:


Louise Matzner, Secretary