

**Joshua Hyde Public Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, June 15th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.  
Library Meeting Room**

**Call to Order and Quorum Check**

Chair Joyce Sinnott called the meeting to order at 6:37pm. In addition to Chair Sinnott, Elisa Krochmalnyckyj, Jessica Colati, Sandra Gibson-Quigley, Alice Kao and Library Director Becky Plimpton were present, meeting the quorum.

**Review and Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Our secretary Gina is not present tonight, so Joyce will talk to her regarding some minor changes. We will approve meeting minutes from both May and June in our next meeting.

**Library Director's Report**

- Building issues

1. Becky met with the contractors yesterday. This was meant to be a greet-and-meet meeting, but the contractor suggested a plan. They want the fastest and cheapest, but we disagree. Closing for a 2 month period is not possible for us. Eventually it will depend on how we are going to divide the time up.
2. Mid-November to Mid-January would be the best time to have the library closed for this project. The major issue is the heat. If we do it floor by floor we can at least keep the other floors warm.
3. Unit will take 3 months to come in. If we order in October, stuff will come in in January.
4. The plan is for them to stage right outside the meeting room.
5. Moving the collection is the other big question.
6. There will be another meeting in 2-3 weeks. The bid cannot be changed and we have to be careful about the wording.
7. Jess asked if they absorbed the collection moving cost.
8. Everything is preliminary at this point and we will just have to see how it works out.
9. Elevator was broken but it's fixed now. All good!
10. Landscaping is completed.
11. Bids for the propane: part of the HVAC is to take it out because the unit will be electric.

- Programs

1. 6 people for the Pamela Means: Protest Songs program.
2. No movie night tomorrow (Friday, 6/16.)
3. 30 people signed up for the 6/21 Supporting Your LGBTQ Youth program.
4. The first book club went well with plenty of kids and adults!

- Other issues/activities

1. Gina, Tasha and Jess attended the MLA.
2. Becky will be gone next week to the ALA in Chicago.
3. 8 people from us signed up and attended the drag queen virtual program. It went exactly as planned.

4. We had a brief discussion about the town meeting and how much support we got. We are very happy with how it turned out!
- Budget status (details see attached financial report)  
We have \$2,800 left and \$3,500 outstanding in the materials budget.

### **Chairperson's Report**

- We didn't get the JCD awards but we tried. We talked briefly about it and we are still proud of what we did!
- Joyce reads resignation letters from Melissa and Carol and they were very nice.

### **Old Business**

- Volunteer Appreciation Night
  1. Sawdust had a fire but we are not planning to have it until October. By then they should be up and running again.
  2. Both Gina and Becky talked to Pete the owner and we have some numbers: 100/hour for the rental. It would include a bartender, 2 servers and a cook. Starts after 5:30pm, M-Th.
  3. We will provide non-alcoholic beverages and food, but people can purchase drinks if they wish.
  4. We will invite Trustees, Friends, Board members and volunteers. We also talked about who to invite from past trustees and Sandy will look at a list from the 125th anniversary last year.
  5. Our planning is moving slowly but we have time.

### **New Business**

- Review of Trustee applications
  1. We all looked at the applications and they both looked good. Dave Reed is a sci-fi nerd (Douglas Adams fan!). He was prepared to speak at the town meeting. Karen Engell recently retired and had a conversation with Becky briefly. She's looking for a way to get more involved with the town.
  2. Applications have been sent to the town administrator. They will fill the vacancies of Carol and Melissa until the next election.
  3. We also spent a little time on which trustees and which year we were elected. We pulled out the list and figured everything out.

### **Review of the Library Director**

- Joyce did a great job compiling all trustees' comments for Becky and we made minor changes. Joyce will edit it and send a final copy to all.
- Jess made note of Becky's support for her staff with limited resources. Joyce mentioned that none of our staff was laid off during the pandemic. Sandy also said Becky knows all our staff's strengths and understands each and every one of them personally. Elisa commented on Becky's interaction with the staff she observed during one of the training classes. Everyone was perfectly comfortable with how Becky leads. They worked hard, learned a lot but at the same time felt relaxed and had fun. Lastly, Alice talked about the two legislative meetings she participated in with Becky. Becky's shown how well she connects with other library directors, staff and our legislative and administrative personnel.

- It's not always the case, but our board of trustees and the director have been working well together. We feel very lucky to have this wonderful group of people!

Motion to adjourn by Jessica at 8:00pm, seconded by Sandra. All approved.

Next meeting August 3rd, 2023

*The items listed, which may be discussed at the meeting, are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*