

Great Falls Public Library
Board of Trustees Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 28, 2023
Great Falls Public Library – Cordingley Room (Basement of the Library)
(Virtual access to meeting was available upon request)
4:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Anne Bulger (via zoom), Ms. Jessica Crist, Ms. Sam DeForest, and Ms. Whitney Olson.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Brad Eatherly

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Susan Wolff - City of Great Falls Commissioner, Ms. Rae Grulkowski - Cascade County Commissioner

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Susie McIntyre, and Mr. Aaron Kueffler

GUESTS PRESENT: Ms. Jill Baker – GFPL Foundation Director, Ms. Sandy Rice – GFPL Foundation liaison, Jeni Dodd – Resident of Great Falls, Rodney Meyers – Resident of Great Falls, Stan Riedmann – Resident of Great Falls, Ginny Rogliano – Resident of Great Falls, Pat Ruf – Resident of Great Falls, Mike Scheer – Resident of Great Falls, Steven Vinnedge – Resident of Cascade County

Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

I. AGENDA APPROVAL

Ms. Olson asked if anyone had additional items to add or remove from the agenda approval.

Ms. Crist moved that the Great Falls Public Library Board of Trustees approve the agenda items as presented. Ms. DeForest seconded the motion. Ms. Olson opened for any board discussion or public comment. Upon hearing none, Ms. Olson called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Olson asked if there were any questions or comments from the committee regarding the consent agenda.

Ms. McIntyre answered questions as they were asked.

Ms. DeForest moved that the Great Falls Library Board of Trustees approves the consent agenda items as presented. Ms. Bulger seconded the motion. Ms. Olson opened for any

board discussion or public comment. Upon hearing none she called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

III. DIRECTORS REPORT

Ms. McIntyre presented her Director's report and answered questions as they were asked.

IV. GFPL FOUNDATION REPORT

Ms. Rice informed us that the Foundation's Spring Newsletter will focus on the Mill Levy.

Ms. Baker informed us that the foundation is working to finalize the contract with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ms. Olson informed us that the Fentanyl event was well attended. The Great Falls History with Thomas Minckler and Ken Robison event was well attended. Pi Day went well and the kids seemed to enjoy it.

The MLA conference is in Billings this year; the board is encouraged to attend.

The City manager has reached out in preparation of Ms. McIntyre's annual review.

VI. BOARD REPORTS

No new board reports were given.

VII. PROPOSALS/COMMENTS FROM TRUSTEES

No new proposals or comments were given.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

BALLOT INITIATIVE COMMITTEE: MILL LEVY REPORT

Ms. Olson presented an update from the Vote Yes Committee. "The Committee spent much of this past month ironing out details of the June 6th election. They are happy to report that the Clerk and Recorder has agreed to hold the election as requested by the City of Great Falls. The Committee continues to work on supporting the election and can now move forward with a full advertising and outreach campaign. People wishing to get involved with campaign are encouraged to reach out on the website VoteYesGreatFallsLibrary.org.

Jenn Rowell of The Electric has reported a scheduled County election process presentation from Sandra Merchant this Friday at 1:30pm. At the time of this writing, there was no Zoom meeting link on the County Commission website. If you are available to attend in person at the building next door or by Zoom, please do so.

PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS: MATERIALS BUDGET APPROVAL

Ms. McIntyre presented a review of the materials budget and answered questions as they were asked.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

MILL LEVY ELECTION DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION

Ms. McIntyre informed the board that Mr. Graybill, from Graybill Law Firm, reached out with concerns regarding the upcoming election. He would like to represent the library. Ms. McIntyre informed us that the City Manager would not object if the Library obtained outside council.

Ms. Bulger made of a motion that the Great Falls Library Board of Trustees retain Graybill Law Firm for outside council in regards to the Mill Levy Election. Ms. DeForest seconded the motion. Ms. Olson opened for any board discussion or public comment. Ms. Crist recused herself due to Mr. Graybill being her son. Ms. Olson called for a vote. Motion passed with 3 votes in favor, and 1 abstention.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Community member Jeni Dodd spoke to the board regarding concerns with some library programs and library materials in the collection. Ms. McIntyre addressed the concerns at the request of Ms. Olson.

Community member Steven Vinnedge asked if the library received ARPA funding and if so, why didn't the library ask for more ARPA funds. Ms. McIntyre addressed the question at the request of Ms. Bulger.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Olson asked if there were any other questions, upon hearing none she would entertain a motion.

Ms. DeForest moved that the Great Falls Library Board of Trustees adjourn the meeting. Ms. Crist seconded the motion. Ms. Olson opened for any board discussion or public comment. Upon hearing none, Ms. Olson called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Olson adjourned the meeting at 5:28 pm.