

Great Falls Public Library
Board of Trustees Board Meeting
Monday December 12, 2022
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, Mr. Brad Eatherly, and Ms. Whitney Olson.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Don Ryan - Cascade County Commissioner Ms. Susan Wolff - City of Great Falls Commissioner

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Jill Baker – GFPL Foundation Director; Sandy Rice – GFPL Foundation Liaison; Jenn Rowell – The Electric, Jenni Dodd—Citizen, Richard Irving, Citizen

Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm.

I. AGENDA APPROVAL

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

Ms. McIntyre noted that there was an error in the agenda and that the Library Marketing plan had been discussed at a previous meeting and should be removed from the agenda.

Ms. Bulger moved that the Great Falls Public Library Board of Trustees approve the agenda items as amended. 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. OLD BUSINESS

MILL LEVY RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COMMISSION

Ms. McIntyre gave a PowerPoint presentation which covered the current status of Library funding, the Master Plan process, the options for a possible Mill Levy and her recommendations for the Board. She answered questions as they were asked.

Mr. Eatherly moved that the Great Falls Public Library Board of Trustees recommend the proposed Library Mill Levy plan to the Great Falls City Commission. Ms. Crist seconded the motion.

Ms. Olson opened for public comment.

Ms. Dodd gave public comment against a Library Mill Levy. She had concerns about the accuracy of the Library polling, the role of social services in the Library, Library activities supporting pride week and the impact of increased taxes on City of Great Falls residents. Mr. Irving gave public comment voicing concerns about trying to pass a mill levy in difficult economic times.

Ms. Olson opened for Board comment. Each Board member explained their thinking on the issue and the reasoning for their votes.

Ms. Olson called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Dodd gave additional public comment about her concerns about the Library.

IV. 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. Bulger 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 5:25 pm.