

**LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018; 8:00 AM  
BOARD ROOM, BENNETT MARTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
136 S. 14<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

**PRESENT:** Lowell Berg, Herb Friedman, Lisa Hale, Donna Marvin, Rhonda Seacrest, Carol Speicher, and County Liaison Walt Broer. **ABSENT:** Martha Florence. A quorum was present.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS LAW:** The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by President Friedman. The posting of the Open Meetings Law was noted.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Berg moved to approve the Agenda has posted. Second by Seacrest. Roll Call Vote: Berg, Freidman, Hale, Marvin, Seacrest, Speicher – aye; Florence – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comment.

**APPROVAL OF APRIL 17, 2018, MEETING MINUTES:** Berg moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2018, Library Board meeting as distributed. Second by Speicher. Roll Call Vote: Friedman, Hale, Marvin, Seacrest, Speicher, Berg – aye. Florence – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*Committee on Administration* – No report.

*Committee on Buildings & Grounds* – No report.

*Committee on Finance* – Speicher reported on the Recap of Expenditures for April 2018 listing claims in the amount of \$915,089.30 from all funds. Speicher moved approval of the report and payment of all claims. Second by Berg. Roll Call Vote: Hale, Marvin, Seacrest, Speicher, Berg, Friedman – aye; Florence – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*Foundation Liaison & Executive Director Report:* In McNair's absence Leach thanked everyone who attended the very successful Wine and E and reminded individuals that the annual "friendraiser" of coffee on the dock of The Mill in the Haymarket will be held on Monday, May 28. The announcement of the One Book – One Lincoln finalists will take place at 10:30 a.m.

*Lincoln Cares* – Leach reported that a news conference is tentatively scheduled on May 31<sup>st</sup> to announce upcoming projects and report on previously funded projects.

*One Book – One Lincoln* – No report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Surplus Property* – Hale moved to declare the assets listed on the May 2018 Surplus Property list as surplus. Second by Marvin. Roll Call Vote: Marvin, Seacrest, Speicher, Berg, Friedman, Hale – aye; Florence – absent. Motion carried 6-0. Leach reported that surplus property will be recycled or discarded as appropriate.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

*Summer Reading Program* - Leach introduced Youth Services Coordinator Vicki Wood and Librarian Kathryn Kelley who briefed the Board on the upcoming Summer Reading Program "Libraries Rock!" The program for children, teens, and adults launches on Friday, May 25, and runs through Tuesday, July 31. The program is being taken out to twenty city outreach sites and eight county towns this year. A bilingual (Spanish/English) book group has been added this year and our relationship with Lincoln Literacy continues as we offer the FLAIR program twice a week for six weeks. This program offers enrichment activities for children while the adults work on their English and literacy skills.

*Library Board Vacancy* - Leach reported on the process for filling the upcoming Library Board vacancy when Herb Friedman completes his seven-year term. The City Council makes the appointment. Library staff will contact the City Council regarding the process. Past practice includes announcing the vacancy, accepting applications during the month of June, Committee on Administration reviewing and making a recommendation to the Library Board at its July meeting, forwarding the Board's recommendation to the City Council along with the applications from all interested individuals, and then the Council making the appointment in time for attendance at the September Board meeting.

Seacrest asked about extending Friedman's term due to his involvement in the Central Library project. Jeff Kirkpatrick, City Attorney, explained that the term limit is set in the Lincoln Municipal Code. The Council can change the Code but the last time Board terms were discussed, the Council indicated that it may shorten the seven-year term due to the high interest of serving on the Library Board.

*Trustee Development:* Leach introduced David Cary and Paul Barnes of the City's Planning Department who presented information to the Board regarding the 2018 Downtown Master Plan.

The 2005 Downtown Master Plan and 2012 Update have both served their purposes to guide the evolution of Downtown Lincoln. The City has completed numerous projects as recommended in the previous plans including the Pinnacle Bank Arena and adjacent West Haymarket development, N Street Protected Bikeway, P Street Primary Retail Streetscape and Lincoln Community Foundation Tower Square. The City is partnering with experts to create a new Downtown Master Plan that will guide public and private investments to elevate Downtown Lincoln as the premier urban neighborhood in the region. Barnes reported that a new Central Library in downtown Lincoln is frequently mentioned at public meetings as an important component to a vibrant downtown. Planning staff is scheduled to meet with the Central Library Committee on Wednesday, May 23, to continue discussion. Everyone was encouraged to take the community input survey that is available on the website [plandowntown.com](http://plandowntown.com).

Miscellaneous – Leach introduced Jen Jackson, a practicum student working at Walt Branch Library.

Leach announced that the Great American Read grant application was not successful; however, the library will be participating in the Great American Read event (which premieres on PDS on Monday, May 22), just in a smaller capacity.

Leach reviewed the budget timetable as it now stands. The Mayor will release his city budget on June 15. The Library's meeting with the City Council is on June 20. Library staff attend this meeting along with a presence from the Finance Committee. Public hearings are scheduled on July 30 and August 8. The City Council is scheduled to take action to adopt the budget on August 20.

Leach reported that she and Assistant Library Director Julee Hammer recently attended a Public Library and School Library Working Together conference in Omaha sponsored by Library Journal and School Library Journal. About 150 people attended from across the country. The conference wasn't so much about sharing space as it was to generate great ideas about co-sharing collections and ways to make it easier to move materials from one library to another.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.