

**LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019; 8:00 AM  
BENNETT MARTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
136 S 14<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Donna Marvin, Lisa Hale, Rhonda Seacrest, Lowell Berg, Dan Sloan, and County Liaison Walt Broer. Absent: Martha Florence, Carol Speicher. A quorum was present.

**OTHERS ATTENDING:** Pat Leach, Library Director; Julee Hatton, Assistant Library Director; Barbara Hansen, Administrative Aide; Paul Jones, Accountant; Peter Jorgensen, Virtual Services Manager; Vicki Wood, Youth Services Coordinator; Brenda Ealey, Gere and South Branch Manager; Gail McNair, Foundation Executive Director; Denise Pearce, Mayor's Office.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Marvin at 8:00 a.m. announcing the availability of the Open Meetings Law posted for inspection.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Berg moved to approve the agenda as posted. Second by Seacrest. Roll Call Vote: Berg, Hale, Marvin, Seacrest – aye; Florence Sloan, Speicher – absent. Motion carried 4-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Berg moved to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting with the correction of Donna Marvin being listed as present rather than Dan Marvin. Second by Hale. Roll Call Vote: Hale, Marvin, Seacrest, Berg – aye; Florence, Sloan, Speicher – absent. Motion carried 4-0.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Committee on Administration** - No report.

**Committee on Buildings and Grounds** – It was announced that the Building Superintendent position has been filled. Dan Miller will start on March 7th.

**Committee on Finance:** Hale presented the Recap of Expenditures report for January 2019 listing claims in the amount of \$1,011,779.73 from all funds. Hale moved approval of the report and payment of all claims. Roll Call Vote: Hale, Marvin, Seacrest, Berg – aye; Sloan, Speicher, Florence – absent. Motion carried 4-0.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Central Library** - Marvin reported on a small group meeting with the Mayor noting that the Mayor is not willing to name the Pershing site for the library at this time. More development of the project is needed, including identifying partners. A campaign is being developed that will highlight the role of libraries in the 21st century. (Dan Sloan arrived. At this time.)

**Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries** - McNair reported on the success of recycling the book sale remainders with Thrift Books. The dates for the 2019 sale are Sept 18 through 22. Wine and E will be held at the Lincoln Country Club on April 25. The Foundation is currently soliciting sponsorships and auction items.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Walt Broer reported on a successful library project in Mahopac, NY, a community 50 miles north of New York City where his nephew lives. Broer reported his nephew said "You need to tell those people they have to build that library. Consider not doing anything else on the Pershing block other than building the library. You will fill that building and will need the parking."

Leach reported on the bed bug article in February 19, 2019, Lincoln Journal Star. The article is on the front page, above the fold. The article shows how proactive the library is in identifying any potential problems, and then following through with either treating or discarding any infected items.

Leach also reported that she has been working with the Public Policy Center on the possibility of doing a return on investment (ROI) study for the library. The cost for an in-depth study would be \$35,000 to \$40,000. There are ways to do a study that are not as in-depth and would cost less. Is this information that would be helpful to us going forward? To what degree do we want to get this information? Leach will continue to look into a study and will also provide a link to the Johnson County Library (KS) ROI study.

Vicki Wood, Youth Services Coordinator, was introduced and presented information about library services and partnerships in the community including Library Learning Time, Every Child Ready to Read, Read Aloud Lincoln, Begin with Books, Prime Time Family Reading Program, Read to a Dog, special costume characters, and the Winter Reading Challenge.

Upcoming projects include working with the Lincoln Housing Authority as part of their grant funded Book Rich Environment project. The project will get books into the hands of children. The first project is in the Arnold Heights neighborhood and will include the community center as well as Arnold School and Williams Branch Library. We are also adding a special needs storytime requiring additional staff training and input from families. As part of the Summer Reading Program we are adding a mentoring program for teen volunteers on the autism spectrum modeled after the Lincoln Community Theater Penguin Program.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.