LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021; 8:00 AM
BENNETT MARTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT
Lowell Berg, Lisa Hale, Donna Marvin, Jackie Ostrowicki, Joe Shaw, Dan Sloan, County Board Liaison Nichole Bogen. Absent: Rhonda Seacrest. A quorum was present.

OTHERS PRESENT
Pat Leach, Library Director; Barbara Hansen, Administrative Aide; Paul Jones, Accountant; Gail McNair, Foundation Executive Director; Peter Jorgensen, Virtual Services Manager; Jocelyn Golden, City Law Department.

CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT
The meeting was called to order by President Dan Sloan at 8:00 AM. The Open Meetings Act was posted and placement announced.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
The agenda was posted according to the Open Meetings Act of the State of Nebraska. Berg moved to approve the agenda as posted. Second by Marvin. Roll Call: Berg, Hale, Marvin, Ostrowicki, Shaw, Sloan – aye; Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS
There was no public comment.

APPROVAL of AUGUST 17, 2021, MEETING MINUTES
Marvin moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Second by Berg. Roll Call: Marvin, Ostrowicki, Shaw, Sloan, Berg – aye; Hale – abstain; Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 5-0.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS
Committee on Administration
No report.

Committee on Buildings and Grounds
Berg reported the roofing projects at Eiseley and Walt Branch Libraries have been completed. The repair of their parking lots starts later this fall.

Committee on Finance
Marvin presented the recap of expenditures for August 2021 listing claims in the amount of $1,002,956.91 from all funds. Marvin moved approval of the report and payment of all claims. Second by Shaw. Roll Call: Marvin, Ostrowicki, Shaw, Sloan, Berg – aye; Hale – abstain; Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 5-0.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
Central Library Committee
Ostrowicki reported on the work of the Communication subcommittee and its informational campaign. A copy of the talking points was distributed. This is a fluid document and will be updated as information
is received. The committee is also working on media coverage to get the library in the news. Library Director Pat Leach will be featured on the cover of the October issue of L Magazine in honor of her 40 years of service to Lincoln City Libraries.

Berg reported the Design subcommittee will meet this week to see BVH’s initial design. A review of the design will also be scheduled for the Central Library Committee members not on the design team.

Berg reported he has been visiting branch libraries in order to clarify the branch improvements identified in the Facilities Plan. We are looking at additional space at Anderson Branch, work on entrances at two locations, and reallocating service areas at several locations. The Facilities Plan will be updated once all the visits are complete.

Leach reported that she has been working with City staff and the White Lotus Group on the overall development of the Pershing site. On September 16, the Historic Preservation Commission met for an advisory review of the Pershing demolition in the Capitol Environ District. They are an advisory commission and do not make the decision but will advise the Capitol Environ Commission. The Capitol Environ Commission will meet on September 24 to take action on the demolition of Pershing Auditorium. There are some efforts underway to preserve the mosaic.

The Redevelopment Agreement between White Lotus Group and the City is still under negotiation. The agreement needs to clarify items such as the cost for preparing the site and distribution of other costs, and who will own, design, and control the green space on the block.

A meeting on September 10 of all parties dealt with time lining. There are a lot of moving parts making coordination between parties essential.

**Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries**

McNair announced that the book sale and the spelling bee have been cancelled for this fall due to the difficulties caused by COVID-19. Six pallets of books are being shipped to Thrift Books for online sale. Volunteers will continue to stock the book nooks, and donations for next year’s book sale continue to be accepted.

**One Book - One Lincoln**

Ostrowicki noted that the selected title, Hidden Valley Road, by Robert Kolker, was announced on Labor Day. There will be a virtual community book discussion and virtual author visit this fall. Media attention included Pat Leach being interviewed on KOLN TV and radio coverage, an Op-ed ran in the Lincoln Journal Star about the program and the value of libraries to the community. A Letter to the Editor from Mary Kay Roth was also published in the Journal Star.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Surplus Property Report**

Leach requested that the surplus property report be approved in order to dispose of property. Most items will be recycled, others may be placed for sale using City procedures, or disposed of when appropriate. Approval moved by Hale, second by Berg. Roll Call Vote: Ostrowicki, Shaw, Sloan, Berg, Hale, Marvin – aye; Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 6-0.
Authorization to Submit Applications to Nebraska Library Commission

*Nebraska Library Internship Grant* – Leach requested authorization to apply for eight interns for 2022 for a total request of $8,000. There is no match requirement. Approval moved by Marvin, second by Ostrowicki. Roll Call Vote: Shaw, Sloan, Berg, Hale, Marvin, Ostrowicki – aye; Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

*American Rescue Plan Grant – Bookmobile* – Leach requested authorization to apply for a Library Improvement Grant, funded from American Rescue Plan Act and administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, in the amount of $100,000 to assist with the purchase of a new bookmobile and its collection. There is no match requirement. Approval moved by Berg, second by Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Shaw, Sloan, Berg, Hale, Marvin, Ostrowicki – aye; Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

*American Rescue Plan Grant – Youth Services* – Leach requested authorization to apply for a grant in the amount of $5,000 to support the purchase of books to give away to preschoolers and to purchase materials to support outreach activities. There is no match requirement. Approval moved by Berg, second by Hale. Roll Call Vote: Sloan, Berg, Hale, Marvin, Ostrowicki, Shaw – aye; Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

*Authorization to Extend Security Contract* – Leach reported that the security contract must be rebid because all responders to the RFP were deemed nonresponsive by the Purchasing Department. Leach requested that the current contract with Sunstates Security be extended through January 31, 2022, at a cost not to exceed $23,000, to allow time for staff to work with the Purchasing Department to rebid the service. Approval moved by Hale, second by Berg. Roll Call Vote: Berg, Hale, Marvin, Ostrowicki, Shaw, Sloan – aye. Seacrest – absent. Motion carried 6-0.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Sloan reported that he is excited about all the activity created by the Central Library project and is thrilled and thankful for all the energy everyone is putting into it.

Committee appointments were announced and are attached as part of the record.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Leach thanked everyone for the surprise reception observing her 40th anniversary at the library.

The annual lost materials report shows that out of the 2,126,299 items borrowed from the library, 6,794 were not returned and declared lost. That loss rate of 0.32% is similar to previous years. The library also purged 68 patron accounts for nonuse along with uncollectable fees of $3900.

Leach reported that the City Council took action to approve the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget. The library’s budget allocation allows for the same level of service.

Library staff continues to work with customers to make sure they wear masks in the library. Some customers are becoming bad-tempered about it and are being more assertive in challenging the policy.
Leach also noted that she continues to do All About Books on Nebraska Public Media, meet with book groups, and do presentations on the American Library Association’s Notable Books.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.
LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 COMMITTEE LIST

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Dan Sloan, President
Joe Shaw, Vice President
Donna Marvin, Treasurer

STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration
Dan Sloan, Chair
Lowell Berg
Donna Marvin

Finance
Donna Marvin, Chair
Joe Shaw
Jackie Ostrowicki

Building and Grounds
Lowell Berg, Chair
Rhonda Seacrest
Lisa Hale
Nichole Bogen

Nominations
Dan Sloan, Chair
Lowell Berg
Rhonda Seacrest

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Technology
Lisa Hale, Chair
Joe Shaw

Foundation Liaisons
Dan Sloan
Lisa Hale
Rhonda Seacrest

One Book – One Lincoln Liaison
Jackie Ostrowicki

Central Library Committee
Dan Sloan, Chair
Lowell Berg
Lisa Hale
Matt Kirkland
Rod Confer
Barb Jacobson
Pat Leach
Traci Glass
LeeAnn Sergeant
Gail McNair

Central Library Subcommittees

Design
Lowell Berg, Chair
Lisa Hale
Rhonda Seacrest
Brian Chaffin
Melissa Newton
Pat Leach
LeeAnn Sergeant
Gail McNair

Branch Improvements
Lowell Berg, Chair
Donna Marvin
Joe Shaw
Doug Campbell
Traci Glass
Pat Leach

Communications
Jackie Ostrowicki, Chair
Lisa Hale
Dan Sloan
Julie Robinson
Katherine Endacott
Pat Leach
Amy Huffman
Barbara Hansen
Gail McNair
Michelle Farley

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Dan Sloan
Jackie Ostrowicki
Nichole Bogen
Herb Friedman
Carl Eskridge
Patte Newman
Pat Leach
Gail McNair

09.21.2021