

**LIBRARY MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
21 MAY 2024**

The regular meeting of the Joplin Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President Mary Gaarder. Board Members Emily Stanley, Jim Fleischaker, Andrea Cullers, Jennifer Baldwin, Jean Coltharp, and Library Director Jeana Gockley were present.

EXCUSED ABSENCES: David Layne, Lisa Erickson and Diane Reid Adams.

BOARD EDUCATION: Children’s Librarian Christina Matekel-Gibson presented an overview of the Library’s 2024 all-ages Summer Reading Program. The theme is “Adventure Begins at Your Library,” and the program runs from May 28-July 21.

MINUTES: Minutes from the April 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by Dr. Coltharp to approve the minutes, with a second by Mr. Fleischaker. Motion passed. **5/0**

VOUCHERS: April non-salary expenditures in the amount of \$67,215.71 were approved. (Stanley/Fleischaker) **5/0**

COMMITTEE REPORTS: There were no Committee Reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Public Participation Policy.** The Board reviewed the revisions to the Library’s public participation policy. There was a motion by Dr. Coltharp to approve the revised policy, with a second by Mr. Fleischaker. The motion passed. **5/0**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Paver project.** Library Director Jeana Gockley and Facilities Manager Justin Kelly presented bids for the sidewalk paver project. There was a motion by Ms. Baldwin to accept the \$16,500 bid, with a second by Mr. Fleischaker. The motion passed. **5/0**
2. **July Board meeting date.** Administrative Assistant Lisa E. Brown will be unable to attend or create reports for the July meeting due to a scheduled absence from work. President Gaarder proposed keeping the regular date but proceeding with the meeting without reports. The Board agreed.

LIBRARIAN’S REPORT:

Media Engagement

- Joplin Reads Together
 - On April 18, The Joplin Globe shared about the event in their “5 things to do” section.
 - On April 23, [The Joplin Globe](#) published an article about Alka Joshi’s author visit.

- On April 30, [KOAM](#) aired a story about the Library's Makerspace and the digital media conversion service.
- On May 2, [The Joplin Globe](#) featured a story about the Children's Department's Dog Day Afternoon program.
- On May 7, I shared about the Library of Things newest items on [KSN](#)'s Living Well.
- Summer Reading
 - On May 8, [KOAM](#) aired a story.
 - On May 9, Lori Crockett shared May events, Beach Reads and Summer Reading on [KODE](#)'s Good Morning Four States.
- Statue Dedication
 - On May 16, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared a story about the day and time of the dedication.
 - On May 16, [KOAM](#) aired a story.
 - On May 16, [KSN](#) aired a story.
 - On May 17, [The Joplin Globe](#) shared a story about the happenings at the event.

Programs

- On April 23, the Library's second community reading event, Joplin Reads Together (JRT), came to a festive close with an author visit from Alka Joshi. During the month-long event:
 - The Library hosted a total of eight programs and provided two take home kits, plus four additional programs were hosted by community partners.
 - The event provided 460 individuals the opportunity to participate in JRT events; including 129 individuals at the Alka Joshi author visit. The most attended program, aside from the author visit, was the Plant Swap, attracting 70 attendees.
- On May 4, aka, May the Fourth Be With You, the Library, in collaboration with Creative Learning Alliance, hosted its third Star Wars Day event from 10 am to 2 pm. Activities included a mix of drop-in programs with approximately 200 people participating.
- On May 19, in partnership with Connect 2 Culture the Library hosted The Concert Truck in the outdoor classroom. Two classical musicians played piano and violin and fifty-fifty people enjoyed the performance.
- On May 20, a dedication for the replacement statue was held, with twenty-seven individuals attending. Kiwanis Club President David Niebur presented the Library with a plaque, and attendees signed thank you notes for those who helped with the replacement and enjoyed light refreshments.

Miscellaneous

- Trustees David Layne and Jim Fleischaker will serve on the Board through the June meeting. New Board trustee appointments will be made on June 17. In June the Board is scheduled to reorganize leadership and committee assignments.
- As part of the facilities assessment all invoices related to HVAC issues were provided to the engineering team. As part of that review, the team discovered that the Library had been overcharged for refrigerant. The company billed almost \$650/lb for a refrigerant that sells for \$15/lb wholesale. Typically it is billed at \$65/lb. The owner of the company followed up to apologize for the error and they have issued a credit for \$9,818.02.

STATISTICS: There was discussion of the numbers for discarded materials.

STAFF COMMENTS: There were no Staff Comments.

BOARD COMMENTS: There were no Board Comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no Public Comments.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Written by

Administrative Assistant

Approved by

Library Director

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Joplin Public Library will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, 2024.