

BRENTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

CALL TO ORDER-ROLL CALL FOR QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Ed Wright. Present: Garry Truman, Jeanette Oesterly, Lynne DeVaughan, Lori Ashmore-Ruppel, Chris Herrington, Ed Wright, Cindy Bechtel, Director Gina Gibbons. Absent: Libby Wilson, Kathy Ryan, and Alderwoman Kathy O'Neill. A quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Motion was made by C. Herrington, seconded by G. Truman to accept the agenda as written. On the issue, all aye. The agenda was accepted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 2019 MEETING

Motion was made by J. Oesterly, seconded by L. DeVaughan, to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2019 meeting. On the issue, all aye. Minutes of the June meeting were approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENTS BY VISITORS (limited to 5 minutes or time allotted by Board president)

Several visitors were present who desired to speak on the topic of the Library's recent event, Drag Queen Story Time. President Wright reviewed guidelines for speakers.

Theresa M. expressed concern that the children were too young to process the content of the event, especially the concept of a drag queen.

Nancy K. stated she was also opposed to the idea of a drag queen program.

Stacy D. thanked the library for a program involving inclusion and diversity. She noted that parents had a choice about attending the event with their children. Her son stated he also attended the story time and thought it was a lot of fun.

Fred Z, a representative of a Christian Radio station, spoke against the program and expressed concerns about indoctrination of young children, introducing sex education in future programs, and the possibility of predators at this type of program.

Karen stated that the program was a positive experience for her and her children who had a lovely time. She would like additional similar programming.

Bob M. expressed his support for the program and thought it was a good way to introduce and also familiarize children and parents to diversity and inclusion.

Amy B. stated she found issues on the presenter's website that were upsetting to her. She acknowledged that none of those appeared in the story time presentation but felt that better "vetting" of this presenter should have been done.

Jennifer D. stated that the program content and stories were age-appropriate. Her young daughter loved the event. Jennifer was pleased with the large turnout of parents and children.

John H. expressed concerns about the possibility of sexual predators during events such as this.

Joy E. opposed the program's focus on diversity and wonders why the library would promote such a "lifestyle." She also expressed opposition to the use of public tax dollars paying for this presenter.

Following the public comments, President E. Wright thanked the citizens for attending and for their input and said that their comments and suggestions will be considered by the Board.

ALDERMANIC REPORT

K. O'Neill was unable to attend the meeting. There was no aldermanic report.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT (See attached report)

G. Gibbons reported that the Library welcomed Joni Hynes, our new adult programming coordinator, who is already planning new programs. The summer reading programs were a huge success, especially the children's, and family participation has more than doubled over 2018 numbers. Over 170 parents and children attended the Drag Queen Story Time. The Library has tested security cameras and will soon decide which type to install. We are also awaiting bids on refinishing the floors, including the bathroom. Gina reported that the Library received a grant for a new printer and accessories to allow mobile printing for our patrons. The bookdrop that was recently damaged by a vehicle has been replaced with a new one. Gina also announce that the Library is partnering with the YMCA gymnastics summer camps and consulting about books and reading.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Financial Committee: The Library now has its own Federal Tax ID. The City has moved our account into an interest-bearing account. G. Gibbons, E. Wright, and J. Oesterly have a meeting scheduled next week with the City Administrator regarding Library control of our finances. The Board discussed whether we should establish a separate account for our tax revenue. We also discussed having a separate line item for our tax revenue. L. DeVaughan stated it would take a public vote to do so. We need to discuss with our attorney about doing this. Further discussion on this topic was tabled. The Financial Committee (E. Wright, G. Gibbons, L. DeVaughan) will proceed with a search for an accounting firm for the Library. E. Wright will investigate possible firms and L. DeVaughan will meet with a firm she knows. The Committee's goal is to have a firm in mind by the next meeting in October.

TREASURER'S REPORT

L. DeVaughan reviewed the monthly financial report. She discussed that line item #6260 Community Services refers to Adult Programming.

NEW BUSINESS

We discussed hiring an employee compensation consulting firm. Currently there is only one bid, so we will continue to search for additional firms.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was decided that an executive session was needed to discuss a legal issue. A motion was made by C. Herrington, seconded by G. Truman, to go into executive session. Roll call vote: E. Wright-aye, G. Truman-aye, C. Herrington-aye, L. Ashmore-Ruppel-aye, L. DeVaughan-aye, J. Oesterly-aye, C. Bechtel-aye. The motion carried and executive session began at 8:10 PM. A brief discussion followed, and it

was decided that there was actually no need to go into executive session. A motion to close executive session was made by C. Herrington and seconded by G. Truman. On the roll call vote, all members voted aye. The motion carried, and executive session closed at 8:13 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Business being completed, motion for adjournment was made by J. Oesterly, seconded by G. Truman. On the issue, all aye. Our next meeting will be Thursday October 3, 2019, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Bechtel, Secretary