

**Brentwood Public Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
March 12, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL FOR QUORUM**

President Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Ed Wright (President), Lori Ashmore-Ruppel (Secretary), Jeanette Oesterly (Treasurer), Kelsey Burkemper, Angela BoClair-Jones, Laura McAllister, Beth Miller Erman, and Mary Stevens. A quorum was present. Gina Gibbons, Library Director, Alderman Brandon Wegge, and ex-officio Garry Truman were also present. Kathy Ryan was absent as she was out of the country.

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

A motion to accept the agenda as submitted was made by B. Miller Erman and seconded by K. Burkemper. All vote aye.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2023, meeting was made by J. Oesterly and seconded by B. Miller Erman. All voted aye.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were three guests for the meeting, but no formal comments.

**ALDERMANIC REPORT**

Alderman Brandon Wegge shared about Brentwood's campaign Low Mow April to help the pollinators. The campaign asks the public to mow only every two weeks. Brentwood had a solar analysis done by Washington University. The library should consider solar options incentives are available. Ameren gives rebates for EV chargers open to the public. April 6th is the opening of the playground at the new Brentwood park. The St. Louis Shakespeare Festival is looking to do a performance at the park pavilion in August.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The first puzzle mania went really well with good attendance. The library plans to do another puzzle event. The MLC is slowly moving to a new catalog system and the transfer will likely take place in October. The new catalog will give more access to the patrons and the library the ability to customize the catalog to highlight available non-book items. The library had a Learn How to DJ class for children. This went well and will probably happen again. It will be opened up to adults as well.

Alex at Brentwood High School started an organization called the BHS Mental Health Awareness Club. There is a cart in the lobby to collect new children's books to donate to St. Louis Children's Hospital.

Washington University's Association of Black Students will collect new school supplies for students in North County. They would also like to collect books from an Amazon wish list curated by the local organization, A Red Circle. There will be more details to come.

#### OLD BUSINESS

2024 Goals - The board has identified members for each library goal subcommittee.

Community relations - K. Ryan, A. BoClair-Jones and L. Ashmore-Ruppel

Library Advocacy - E. Wright and M. Stevens

Strategic Planning - B. Miller Erman, L. McAllister, J. Oesterly, and K. Burkemper

G. Gibbons will provide expertise to all committees as needed.

The goal subcommittees will continue to have a chair and meetings when necessary and communications. The subcommittees will report any news or updates at the board meetings.

Prop L Update - Prop L was presented at the Ward 1 meeting on March 12. There were about 12 citizens in attendance. The library has presented to every Ward and the overall response has been positive. The property at 2201 Brentwood passed the Phase 2 environmental inspection.

Communications Committee - L. McAllister reported that many Prop L signs have been seen across the neighborhood. There was a news story in the Pulse with renderings of the new library. Brochures, bookmarks, and talking points are available. The committee continues to tell the story of the library, and people have been very receptive. Tabletop signs and handouts will be at all five Brentwood schools. There are brochures at the West Community Bank.

Prop L Campaign Committee - J. Sivier reported that over 80 yard signs have been handed out with less than 40 remaining. Potential public spaces for yard signs are being considered and will be placed closer to the election. The committee received \$2500 and spent has spent \$1000. The committee is looking for volunteers to be at the poll with a small flyer about Prop L that says, "Vote Yes on Prop L to support your hometown library" with the logo. The committee has the voter logs from the April 2023 election which says names and addresses but not phone numbers. One day during elementary school pick-up, committee members will hand out brochures to parents as they come to pick up their kids.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

February Report - The library investments account is at \$1,256,307 which is an increase of over \$6,000. In February, over \$200,000 in taxes was provided to the library.

The next Brentwood Public Library Board of Trustees meeting will occur on April 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., at the Brentwood Public Library Meeting Room.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. was moved by J. Osterly and seconded by A. BoClair-Jones. All vote aye.