

**KIRKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES**  
**April 16, 2025**  
**Meeting Room, Kirkwood Public Library, 140 E Jefferson**

Board Attendance: McLaughlin, McKee, Missey, Pitt Kaplan, Price, Reyes-Jones, Smith, Wolshock  
Board Absent: Harms  
Staff Attendance: Christa Van Herreweghe, Lisa Henry  
Guests: None

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Smith at 5:00 p.m.

**Business from the audience –**

Public Comments: None.

**Minutes:** Reyes-Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of March 19, Price seconded, and the vote to approve was passed by the trustees in attendance.

**Librarian's Report –** Van Herreweghe reported:

**Feds** - IMLS update: payments were made to six states and three states were informed their agreements with IMLS were cancelled. KPL remains hopeful that we can get some payments. We are rushing to get some final reports in so we can put in our payment requests and have them "in line" to get paid.

**State:** Several libraries sent people to Jefferson City to testify against HB 903 which would decrease the assessed value of personal property and take it down to 0. This would ultimately cost KPL \$400,000 annually. A few other taxing districts showed up to speak against this but NO school districts or public safety districts showed up. We are anxiously awaiting the end of the session.

**MEC/MLC:** Van Herreweghe attended the MEC user conference with hopes of switching to using the built in self-check module and getting rid of the third party vendor currently used. Equinox provided some connections with other places using Evergreen for self check.

**City of Kirkwood –** No big news from the City this morning. They are pushing to buy vehicles now instead of in the new model year, expecting that will cost them up to 20% more with all the things going on right now.

**KPL** - Yesterday Van Herreweghe had the pleasure of serving on the Rotary scholarship committee, interviewing 18 students to give out 8 scholarships.

Van Herreweghe spoke at Eliot Chapel on March 30, and there were also two school librarians there.

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The State Library was here for a grant monitoring visit.

MOREnet was here on the 8th and replaced almost all of the network equipment for FREE because THEY got a grant. This replaced the router, firewall, all WIFI access points, and includes five years of service.

Two more “brainstorming” meetings to talk about ideas for KPL’s 100th anniversary were held.

**Grant news** - KPL did get chosen for another Spotlight on Literacy grant that was written by Kim and Jamie in YS (new to grants!). Nick O’Neal put in another tech grant. Staff will continue on this path until the path disappears.

**Incidents:** No new incidents this month.

**Meetings** – The state librarian has increased meetings to once a week. They are working very hard to give us information about what services are funded through IMLS and what is funded through the state general fund. They have developed a survey to ask each library district to rank things in order of importance.

**Trustees’ Reports** – None

**President’s Report** –None.

**Committee Reports** –

Finance: Wolshock made a motion to approve the committee minutes from March, Reyes-Jones seconded and the vote to approve was unanimous by the committee members. McKee reported the Library has received 97% of the revenue budget and spent 72% of the expense budget, so we are in good shape.

Currently there is 2,716,016 in the revenue budget for the next fiscal year and the reserve budget (page 21) includes \$50,000 to cover grant funding that may or may not come in. The reserve budget (what we have in the bank) will cover the rest of this year, the first half of next fiscal year, and still leaves us with money set aside for emergencies, for capital purchases and for budget shortfalls if we don't get the money next year that we planned on.

Building and Grounds: Reyes-Jones reported the furniture for the New Books Room is in. The landscaper is doing clean up and prep work for spring plants. Building inspections have been scheduled for the end of May.

Personnel: Price reported the trustees will go into closed session to discuss Van Herreweghe’s review after the regular meeting.

Development: Price reported the Endowment fund is starting to feel the market volatility and is down to \$1,919,762.

The appeal is at \$31,168 and another 57 pavers will be installed, hopefully in the next month.

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Board Operations: McLaughlin reported the committee had just met to discuss the officers and possible committees.

### **Unfinished Business**

**None**

### **New Business –**

**Lodge FY 25 Budget Amendments** – Henry reported this will be delayed until next month.

**Lodge FY 26 Budget** – The personnel budget has been approved by the personnel committee and the entire budget has been reviewed and approved by the finance committee.

**Lodge Slate of Officers** – McLaughlin presented the following slate:

President – Smith  
Vice President – Pitt Kaplan  
Treasurer – Wolshock  
Secretary – Missey

McLaughlin made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Section 610.021(1) and (3) of the Missouri Revised Statutes, which was seconded by McKee. A roll call vote was taken with the following trustees voting in favor of going into closed session: Clark, McKee, McLaughlin, Kaplan, Price, Smith and Wolshock. The following trustees voted against going into closed session: None. The Board then went into closed session pursuant to Section 610.021(1) and (3) of the Missouri Revised Statutes.

The Board emerged from closed session and a motion was made by McKee and seconded by Price to adjourn the regular board meeting at 6:30 pm, which passed by unanimous vote of the Trustees in attendance.

The next regular board meeting will be on Wednesday, May 21st at **5:00** pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Henry, Director of Operations