



**Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
West Slope Community Library  
January 31, 2023, 5:00-6:30pm

**In Attendance:**

Lisa Tattersall, WCCLS Manager  
Kristen Thorp, Library Director  
Julie Solomon, Chair  
Joanne Treuhaft, Vice Chair  
Lois Hays, member  
Amelia Nason, member

**Call to order** – 5:05pm – Solomon

**Consent agenda** – motion to approve the consent agenda from Hays and seconded by Nason. Motion approved.

**Public comment** – No public comment.

**Mid-year Budget report** – General Fund revenues are not keeping pace with expenditures. County-wide average cost of providing services has increased by 7.7% while average county-wide revenue has only increased by 5.8%

Factors that contribute to this imbalance are:

- Constrained property tax system in Oregon
- Health insurance and state retirement system costs that have outpaced inflation
- Unfunded state mandated programs
- Decreases in state funding:





Every department that receives money from the General Fund, including WCCLS and West Slope, must submit a flat budget, along with three reduction scenarios – 4%, 7%, and 10%. Our budget is very lean, so we do not have room for a lot of creativity in planning these reduction scenarios. We won't know the final decision until late June, for implementation in July.

WCCLS receives 60% of our operating budget from Washington County's General Fund, 40% is from voter approved levy. West Slope Library, the only county operated library, receives 100% of essential funds from WCCLS and Washington County. West Slope Library is gifted money from the Friends of the Library to support programs and circulating wifi-hotspots. These offerings wouldn't be possible in our budget without the support of the Friends. At the Mid-point of the FY we know that we will underspend in personnel because of vacancies.

**Blind Spot by Anthony Greenwald and Mahzarin Banaji discussion** – One of the Advisory Board's goals is to increase diversity of the board and understand the challenges that the staff when it comes to microaggressions staff experience working the service desk. The group read this title and discussed implicit biases and how they impact the library workers.

**Advisory Board recruitment update** – Thorp and other board members shared the community partners that they have connected with in the hopes of finding a new student member and a member at large. Thorp shared that we received some inquiries and one application so far. Will reach out to the applicant in February.

**Unattended Child Policy Feedback** – The Board reviewed the library's draft of the Unattended Child Policy. The Board appreciated some of the library's thoughtful language and made a few extra suggestions for inclusion.



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## Library Updates

- Girl Who Code program launched with great success. 10 students signed up to participate in the weekly 10-week course to learn Scratch coding. Program is open to all genders.
- We've seen an increase in Storytime participate with the removal of registration. Receiving positive feedback from families.
- World Cup viewing parties were a success despite the time zone challenges. We had viewers at every screening.
- December Take and Makes were gone within the first 3 days of registrations so we quickly created 100 additional kits to pass out to families. The January kits were gone within 10 days.
- Library staff are making great progress on the volunteer program and looking forward to relaunching that program soon.

**Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.**

