



Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

West Slope Community Library

September 19, 2023 5:00-6:30 PM

In Attendance:

Kristen Thorp, Library Director

Julie Solomon, Chair

Kristin Ingram, Vice-Chair

Joanne Treuhaft, member

Dorothy Gerlach, Friends of the Library President

Carol Hellebuyck, Friends of the Library Vice President

Sharon Selberg, Friends of the Library Treasurer

Narjala Bhasker, community member

Call to order – 5:03pm – Solomon

Consent agenda – motion to approve the consent agenda from Ingram and seconded by Treuhaft. Motion approved.

Public comment – No public comment

Friends of the Library – updated the board on the successful Bottle Drop fundraiser which included advertisement with yard signs for the first time. Ideas were generated about where else canvassing might happen. Friends anticipate reaching their Bottle Drop fundraising goal for the year. Other fundraising includes the ongoing Book Sale and the spring's Tulip Sale.

FY 24-25 Budget report – Based on directions from the Board of Commissioners Chair, the library is exploring options for governance. Stakeholders of the Advisory Board and Friends





of the library are meeting with WCCLS manager Lisa Tattersall and Commissioner Treece to explore options.

Banned Books Week – Thorp shared information on challenged and banned books during 2022 and 2023. "Censors targeted a record of 2,571 unique titles in 2022, a 39% increase from 2021. Of those titles, the vast majority were written by or about members of the LGBTQIA+ community or by and about Black people, Indigenous people, and people of color." - ALA website. It is important that patrons who care about the Freedom to Read should stay engaged and speak with their elected representatives. County Board of Commissioners are planning on declaring a proclamation to support the Freedom to Read in Washington County on Tuesday, September 26, at 6:30pm

Board Resource Books – Tabled to November meeting.

August Stats:

- Circulation:
 - 56 (July) and 66 (August) people signed up for a new library card!
 - Total circulation was 46,243 in the two months
- Materials movement:
 - 77.78 hours of shelving
 - 54.5 hours preparing our books to fill patron requests
 - 77 hours preparing holds for WSL patrons
 - As more volunteers help with these tasks, staff time is decreasing
- Volunteers:
 - 193 hours of volunteer service

Meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.

