

Whitman County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Whitman County Library, Colfax
February 19, 2019

Present: Heather Lustig, Kristie Kirkpatrick, Steve Balzarini, Suzanne Schmick, and Shirley Cornelius.

Chair Suzanne Schmick called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. There were no additions or modifications to the agenda.

New Business:

The Friends of the Library February supporter of the month is Butch Booker who has presided over WCL's fundraising auctions and donated personally with his wife Jennifer. Kristie will present the award later this month.

The Friends of the Library recently sent out their annual newsletter and dues renewals are starting to roll in. A donor recently gave WCL \$3,000 to purchase a stage. P1FCU is considering a donation of funds to help purchase a sound system for The Center which will be in the \$3,000 to \$4,000 range.

Kristie passed out a list of Teen programs available in Colfax and branches such things as Blackout Poetry, Candy Trivia, Movie Trivia, Rube Goldberg kit, etc. Nichole Kopp coordinates these offerings countywide.

With the recent bad weather, the board reviewed the Library's policies and procedures on inclement weather which is found on page 42 of the current policy manual, available from the library's website. Kristie or designated staff members decide if libraries need to close on a case by case basis and considering a number of criteria.

February 6 was Legislative Day in Olympia sponsored by the Washington Library Association. Kristie was unable to attend but shared her email correspondence to our legislators. She plans to attend next year and would love to have a WCL trustee(s) accompany her.

Continuing Business:

There are currently two applicants for the opening on the WCL board of trustees. Kristie shared their letters of interest and resumes. She will schedule Board interviews of the candidates at the next meeting and will contact the Board should others apply as well. Kristie reviewed the interview process with the Board and asked them to be ready for the March 19 interviews.

A new Libey Gallery sign is expected shortly in the Center as corrections were needed. The delay did allow Butch Booker to be added to the list of major community supporters.

Monthly Business:

Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and approved by a vote of the board.

Financial reports including the February payroll and accounts payable vouchers of \$94,745.12 were presented. There was no additional discussion and Resolutions #2019-3 and #2019-4 were approved by a vote of the board.

Kristie reviewed the usage statistics for January as compared to January 2019. Traditional and digital usage are steady while database usage saw a 27% drop. Most of this can be attributed to lower usage of Whitman County Heritage – which remains the strongest collection in the state.

Volunteer hours grew by 55 with strong support in Palouse, Rosalia and Colfax.

Program attendance saw a slight decline in children and teens but numbers are still quite strong. All electronic measure and electronic communications are also strong. WCL is excited to announce that a new Instagram account as well.

Two new databases have been added, Mango Foreign Language and A to Z Travel. Staff are promoting their use and will host a fun introductory program for the public.

Kristie commended the staff for providing an amazing array of community programs including the Paint Nights recently featured in the Gazette. She also acknowledged the wonderful exercise classes and a Mindful Eating class being provided by Whitman Community Hospital

Upcoming events for all locations are best viewed at the website at www.whitco.lib.wa.us including the play Map of My Kingdom at the Center on Thursday, February 28, Trivia at the Hyde Out on Thursday, February, 21, and Play for the Park trivia on Sunday, February 24.

Upcoming Board Meetings and trainings:

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 19, at the Colfax Library

The meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.

Shirley Cornelius, Secretary

Suzanne Schmick, Board Chair