

Whitman County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Public Meeting at the Colfax Branch of the Whitman County Library
September 20, 2022

Present: Ronda Penwell, Heather Lustig, Steve Balzarini, Cody Allen, Shirley Cornelius, Sheri Miller, and guest Clancy Pool from the Friends of the Library.

Chair Suzanne Schmick called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Minutes of the August 16, 2022 meeting, and Resolutions 22-18, 22-19, and 22-20 were approved by a vote of the Board.

Reports

August financial documents along with a 2022 Budget Revision were shared with the board and there were no additional comments on the documents.

In the director's report, Cody shared that the library has been left unlocked at night recently and he and Catalina have a new laminated library closing checklist to ensure that the library is closed properly at night. The checklist will be checked off nightly and reviewed in the morning, erased, and used again that night. There has been a change in where the staff parks at the Colfax library to better accommodate programming needs. Leave requests have been redone to help scheduling and processing needs. Catalina has been awarded a grant to attend a data driven conference in the Tri-Cities and the library will be having a representative at the Overdrive conference this fall. Cody and Sarah both received a grant to attend the Association for Rural and Small Libraries national conference in Chattanooga. Cody attended sessions on strategic planning, staff evaluations, sources of funding, policy writing, and community surveys.

Awarding of the Digital Tech Grant has been pushed back another week until the end of September. Several events are coming up including Trick or Treat on Main on Friday, October 28, and Gary Libey would like to hold an event about Abraham Lincoln in November at the Center.

Continuing Business

In branch news, an Onward Energy grant will allow for extended hours for Oakesdale and Rosalia. The Garfield branch would like to have a community mural painted on the side of their library but is running into resistance from some of the community members. Cody intends to attend a city council meeting in the near future to discuss those concerns.

Library usage continues to show improvement over the Pandemic period although Cody plans a deeper look into the statistics over a period of time to help with strategic planning for the future.

In board member recruitment, one possible candidate was brought forth. Cody will follow through with that candidate and reach out to branch managers for a possible replacement. The hope is that we will have a candidate in place by December.

New Business

The Friends are holding funds for a grant from the Robert Osborne family that was awarded before the Pandemic. Plans were derailed for a film festival and a reception for scholarship winners that was in the working before the pandemic. Cody will be reaching out to the family to see how they would like the library to proceed with the funds.

We are looking into adding some evening hours at the library to accommodate programming. We would like to add hours by not expanding staff hours but reallocating resources to accommodate more hours.

Public Comment

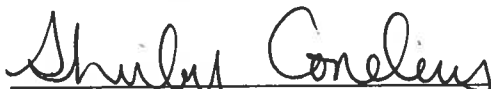
There was no Public Comment.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 PM.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, October 18 at 4:00 PM at the Colfax branch of the Whitman County Library.



Shirley Cornelius



Suzanne Schmick, Chair