



**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024
5:30 P.M.
SPARKS LIBRARY 1125 12TH St, Sparks, NV 89433**

Library Trustees

Ann Silver, Chair
Tami Ruf, Vice-Chair
Gianna Jacks, Trustee
Leah Moser, Trustee
Maria Rodriguez, Trustee

0) Salute to the Flag

1) Roll Call [Non-Action Item]

Board Members Present: Leah Moser, Board Trustee
Gianna Jacks, Board Trustee
Maria Rodriguez, Trustee

Board Members Absent: Ann Silver, Chair
Tami Ruf, Vice-Chair

County Staff Present: Jeff Scott, Library Director
Herb Kaplan, Assistant District Attorney

In the absence of the chair, Trustee Moser ran the meeting.

2) Public Comment –Two-minute Time Limit Per Person [Non-Action Item] The Board may not discuss or take action on any matter raised under this public comment section until it has been specifically included on an agenda.

1. Alanna Fitzgerald: Spoke on her support for libraries and librarians

2. Cate Salim: Thanked libraries and Librarians, particularly for their assistance with the Davis

Fire.

3. William Puchert: He spoke on his support for libraries and librarians and commented on his disappointment with the events at the August meeting and with those who disrupted a children's Storytime.
 4. Connie Douglas: Spoke in favor of libraries and librarians and suggested a mural for the exterior of the Sparks Library.
 5. Naseem Jamnia: I welcome Trustee Rodriguez to the board and am happy to see a person of color on the board. However, I feel the board does not support library staff. I would like to see the board fulfill the bylaws and support library staff and administration. Library staff perform a great deal of good in the community.
 6. Janet Butcher: I welcome the new board member, Maire Rodriguez. I am glad that trustee Rodriguez brings Spanish to the board, but we must not forget that others need outreach to the county. Full comments attached in the packet.
- 3) Board Comment [Non-Action-Item] -Limited to Announcements, Strategic Plan Activity, Updates or issues Proposed for Future Agendas and/or Workshops.

Trustee Moser welcomed Trustee Maria Rodriguez to the board. Would like to at some point agendize possibility of art for the different libraires as per the recommendation made.

Trustee Jacks acknowledged everybody who went through the Davis Fire and the impacted people. She was stuck Saturday with her children in the car on East Lake trying to vacate through Washoe Valley. It was a terrifying experience. Welcomed Maria Rodriguez. Is still worried about the bylaws and the working on how trustees attend. Would like to request the Chair and Vice Chair to address some to the bylaws by next meeting. Supporting Wolf Pack.

Trustee Maria Rodriguez thanked everyone for the warm welcomes from board members and public comment. She is bilingual but does not necessarily wasn't to cater to a select group of the community but does feel that with 25% of Washoe County being Hispanic and Latino that it is good to have somebody on the board who understands that culture. Thanked the first responders and other members of the community for tending to the Davis Fire.

- 4) Approval of Meeting Minutes
- a) Approval of Minutes from the Library Board Meeting of August 21, 2024 [For Possible Action]

Trustee Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Jacks second the motion. Chair Moser opened the public comment.

1. Cate Salim: Questioned the minutes where it stated holding of the minutes remotely in the bylaws which is specifically addressed in NRS 241.023 hopes the board members will read the bylaw and understand it.

2. William Putter: The minutes are fine but wanted to reiterate the behavior of the audience as librarians were asking for their sanctions of the disruptive activity. Knows that it can't be reflected in the minutes but it did occur and it is just another indication of how this board need to support its staff.
3. Janet Butcher: Stated that there was no mention of whomever jumped up and chased after a mature woman in the audience. Stated the librarian cried due to being caught in a lie.

All board members voted, and motion passed.

- 5) Old Business [Non-Action Item]
None

- 6) New Business
a) None

- 7) Reports
a) Library Director Update by Director Jeff Scott [Non-Action Item]

Spoke on the response to the Davis Fire. South Valleys Library was a command center evacuation zone for both Saturday and Sunday. The south Valleys library was prepared for that through the Emergency Operations Center and Emergency Management through Washoe County to stand that up with equipment for the EOC. South Valleys has one gigabit internet along with great space to host. Governor Lombardo was present as well. Received an award from the Emergency Management a small statue of appreciation. Gave a shout out to branch manager Julie Ullman as she managed the actions. Marched the Nevada Pride parade right before the Davis fire with attendance of 10,000 attendees. 500 attended the booth. Band book week freedom to read week with displays Sparks Library has a creative display that is set up it is interactive there is invisible ink. Working on a few grants like United Way Northern Nevada through the federal government. Grant would be a possibility to obtain a 1.5 million grant to upgrade technology. New Fall Explorers have arrived as well.

Trustee Moser: For the equity grant who is the grant writer for the library. Director Scott responded that he is the grant writer.

- b) Sparks Library Presentation by Library Branch Manager Corinne Dickman [Non-Action Item]

Branch Manager for Sparks library Corinne Dickman presented a power point to the board on the impact on the community as it relates to school support. Fiscal year 2023 and 2024 Sparks staff presented 31 youth outreaches interacting directly with 227 users. Sparks offers four story times per week with baby story time, toddler story time, Family story time, and bilingual story time. 2023 and 2024 374 story time programs were offered at Sparks library. This branch also staffs the senior center branch library 20 hours per week and oversee the homebound delivery services. Welcoming spaces offers comfortable seating and computers but also a community garden at the back of the library. Karma box and dorm fridge as well.

8) Staff Announcements [Non-Action Item]

No discussion or action may be taken upon any matter raised under this comment section until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda.

Director Scott stated Chair Silver regretted not being present due to a family emergency. As well as Vice-Chair Ruf.

9) Adjournment at 6:11pm

Public Comment 9/18/2024

Please write legibly for the record

- 1 Alanna Fitzgerald
- 2
- 3 Cate Salim
- 4 William Ruchert
- 5 Connie Douglas

NASEEM JAMNIA
CATHIN Mc Mann -

Janet Butcher

September 18, 2024 - Washoe County Library Board of Trustees

Janet Butcher for the Record. Please enter my comments into the minutes VERBATIM per NRS statute.

I wish to welcome the newest member of the board, Marie Rodrigues. I appreciate the fact that she brings Spanish to the board, I would like to point out that outreach to the WHOLE of Washoe county is most important, not just selected pockets of Washoe County.

I have watched the new Trustee and others speak in the past in support of vulgar and obscene material being made readily available to children in both the Washoe Public Libraries and the Washoe Schools and call us Bullies for not wanting this material readily available. This is distressful. Obviously 3 of the commissioners are also in support of this material being made available.

I can be called anything they wish; I will not be discouraged from standing up for the Innocence of Children. It's not about what adults want it is about the Children! PERIOD! I don't understand how that is bullying.

The library should be providing a haven of safety for children, while yes giving adults what they want (or I guess need). Asking for the Curators of the Library system to provide this is not bullying. It is a mature nurturing request and those who fail to see it as such must possess a desire to early sexualize the youth. One can only speculate their why! While porn and explicit content can be pulled up in various medias and provided by the parents and/or grandparents in their private homes, the taxpayer entities should provide the extra steps to keep it from being readily available to children. Please note; this is not book banning.

As I addressed in last month's meeting and to the Washoe County Commissioners, there have not been any trustee appointed to the board as eager to work with the WHOLE of the population as Trustee Jacks. I very much appreciated Trustee Jacks reaching out to the citizens without the interference from the paid Director and staff..

I am submitting my comments to be included verbatim per Chair Silver's instructions to be placed into the minutes, since it is the decision of the Trustees, Director and DA representative not to follow NRS.