

Whitman County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Whitman County Library, Albion
June 18, 2019

Present: Heather Lustig, Kristie Kirkpatrick, Steve Balzarini, Suzanne Schmick, Bob Bates, Cindy Alred, Bev Pearce, and Shirley Cornelius.

Chair Suzanne Schmick called the meeting to order at 4:25 p.m.

New Business:

Kristie presented to the board an overview of the Albion branch of the Whitman County Library including hours, history, supporters, and programs. Wendy Ewest is the new branch manager of the Albion branch was introduced and currently is training with Colfax staff members.

In the last month, Kristie has traveled to town council meetings in Oakesdale, Endicott, Uniontown, and Tekoa to present statistics related to that town's branch to talk about funding for potential renovations and also to answer council member's questions about their branch.

The June library supporter of the month is Whitman Hospital and Medical Center and their certificate was presented at the June Friends meeting which included a tour of the hospital.

Continuing Business:

After reviewing proposed policy manual changes from May's meeting, the board approved those changes by a vote of the board with Resolution 19-16. Changes included adding a service animal policy, formalized employee work attire policy, and an updated request for reconsideration of materials. Other changes involve improved wording and updating procedures to align with current practices.

Monthly Business:

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

Financial reports including the May payroll and accounts payable vouchers of \$90,848.94 were presented to the Board. There was no additional discussion and Resolutions #2019-14 and #2019-15 were approved by a vote of the board.

For April, Malden, Palouse and Rosalia posted strong increases in circulation although system-wide, WCL still saw a drop of 5% in traditional checkouts. Digital circulation (downloadable audio and eBooks) rose by 41%. Kristie shared a chart that estimates what usage of digital and databases might be by branch or region.

System-wide, circulation rose by 718 uses in May. Kristie highlighted especially strong circulation of traditional items in LaCrosse and Palouse. Program attendance dipped slightly although some locations posed high numbers including Garfield and Malden. of public computer use in Endicott and Malden.] Electronic Outreach was off the charts as Facebook allowed our Rural Heritage page to share direct links into the collection – a bug in the system that it seems they have corrected.

Looking at the database report, E-Library, Proquest and Heritage Quest showed lots of usage, as did the ever popular Rural Heritage collection.

Kristie shared WCL's Events Calendar for the rest of June. It is best be viewed at the website at www.whitco.lib.wa.us. Upcoming events include the Ice Age Museum grand opening on Saturday, June 22 from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM and a tour of the Rosalia Library and the Nona Hengen art studion on July 10th.

Upcoming Board Meetings and trainings:

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, July 16, in Lacrosse and will also include a tour of the Ice Age Museum and dinner.

The August 20 meeting will be back at the Colfax Library.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM and board members toured the Albion library and the old school building that the library is housed in.

Shirley Cornelius, Secretary

Suzanne Schmick, Board Chair