

Whitman County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
Whitman County Library, Palouse
May 21, 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 4:48 p.m. after a brief tour of the Palouse Library.

New Business:

Kristie presented to the board an overview of the Palouse branch of the Whitman County Library including hours, history, supporters, and programs. Bev Pearce has managed the library since 2011 and Cindy Alred represents Palouse on the board of trustees.

The May library supporter of the month is Diane Nebel from Rosalia.

Continuing Business:

Kristie handed out proposed updates to the Whitman County Library Policy manual and asked the board members to review and send back suggestions to Kristie before the next board meeting on June 18. Proposed changes include 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 April meeting were reviewed and approved by a vote of the board.

Financial reports including the April payroll and accounts payable vouchers of \$124,220.27 were presented to the Board. There was no additional discussion and Resolutions #2019-12 and #2019-13 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.

Database usage dropped by about 939 uses. Whitman County Heritage and ABC Mouse are by far the most popular but A to Z World Travel made a really strong showing. Kristie encouraged everyone to go online and take a look at Lynda.com. This product is provided by Washington State Library through LSTA funding (as are a number of other databases) for at least the next year or longer.

Program attendance continues to rise with increases in both childrens and adult attendance and all electronic measures remain strong.

Kristie shared WCL's Events Calendar for the rest of May. It is best be viewed at the website at www.whitco.lib.wa.us. You can narrow your search by choosing a specific branch location as well. Kristie pointed out several upcoming Palouse programs including Mental Health First Aid class, Stamping up with PMS, and cribbage game night.

Upcoming Board Meetings and trainings:

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 18 in Albion. Kristie will work out the details with our new Albion manager Samantha Nguyen.

The July 16 meeting is tentatively held at the LaCrosse branch where we hope to tour the Rock Houses with whom the library is partnering with LaCrosse Community Pride, Alex McGregor and The Ice Age Institute on a .09 Whitman County Economic Development grant to create an Ice Age Flood museum.

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 PM.

Shirley Cornelius, Secretary

Suzanne Schmick, Board Chair

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