

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 10TH, 2019

The Board of Trustees of the Jerome Public Library met in the library conference room for their monthly meeting on December 10, 2019. In attendance were Board Chair Bill Allred, Trevor Churchman, Lydia Cosio, Sarah Sandridge and Director Linda Mecham.

The meeting was called to order by Bill Allred at 5:36 p.m.

Approval of minutes – Trevor Churchman made a motion to approve the November 12, 2019 minutes as written. Sarah Sandridge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report –We are two months, or 17% into our new fiscal year, we have received only \$13,425.61 of the anticipated revenues. This is 3.6% of our expected revenue. Regarding expenditures, we have spent 13.68% of the amount budgeted. Director provided a cover sheet as suggested by the board. There will be some changes in the verbiage to include an ending date rather than YTD. Lydia made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Lydia Cosio seconded the motion. Motion carried.

November 2019 bills were viewed by all board members present and acknowledged by signature. Lydia Cosio made a motion to approve the November 2019 bills. Sarah Sandridge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Director's Report:

- The circulation statistics were down slightly from last year.
- There was a decrease in usage of the mobile app last month. However, we are still getting people signed up; 39 new users registered last month
- We started fine forgiveness at the end of November and will continue it through the end of December.

Unfinished Business

- We tabled the review of the bylaws. Bill Allred suggested a special meeting to accomplish this. We thought the first full week in January might work. The Director will email possible dates.

New Business

- The finance department has asked us to review our fees. The Director wanted to visit the fee charged to non-residents. The Twin Falls library charges a \$40 rural fee while ours is \$45. The Director pointed out that it is a difficult sell to the public that patron would have to pay more for fewer resources at our library. Last year's levy rate is .00073019562, while this year's levy rate is .00066553139. This means that last year, the median household with a tax value of \$119,000 paid about \$43.50 last year, and will pay \$39.60 this year. Bill Allred wanted to make sure that we were being fair to our city residents. He wanted to verify the median household. The argument was made that getting something from rural patrons was better than getting nothing and having those patrons go to the Twin Falls library instead. The board wanted to know just how many rural card we currently issue per year. We will continue this discussion at the next meeting. We also offer free cards to senior citizens. We are the only library that does this. The director suggested having a reduced fee since seniors inside city limits still pay taxes. Board did not want to charge for a senior non-resident card.

- The LIBRI consortium is considering two upgrades to our current services. The first being the ability to send SMS messages; the second would be to add an automatic renewal service to patrons. To add the messaging, the Jerome Public Library would be responsible for paying \$260 for the setup, and \$207.22 for the annual fee. This would be a total cost of \$467.22. For the automatic renewal, the Jerome library would need to pay \$280 for a one-time setup fee. Sarah Sandridge made a motion to add SMS messaging to our services for a total cost of \$467.22, and not to add the automatic renewal services. Lydia Cosio seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- The hotspots have arrived. We have budgeted for their addition. The Hotspot Policy was changed to reflect the change in the costs associated with replacement of the hotspot and the fines associated with them. Sarah Sandridge moved to amend the Hotspot policy. Lydia Cosio seconded the motion. We discussed that the board chair has an equal vote in the voting process. Previous to this, the board chair only called for the vote. Bill Allred, Lydia Cosio and Sarah Sandridge voted to pass the motion.
- This is Lydia Cosio's last meeting due to her change in residence. We will really need to focus on our board recruitment. We agree that we definitely need someone who can reach out to our Latino community. The Director also suggested that we reach out to the high school. It would be nice to allow the teens to have a voice on our board. According to library laws, there is no age limit for board members. Bill suggested that we invite some teens to the meetings. Although they could participate in the meetings, they would have no vote. We will need to start suggesting people we might reach out to, and to interview them. We will need to submit names to the mayor and council, so that the mayor can appoint.

Bill Allred adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.