

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2023

The Board of Trustees of the Jerome Public Library met in the library meeting room for their monthly meeting on May 9, 2023. In attendance were Board Vice Chair Sarah Sandridge via phone, Deyanira Escalona Trochez, Christine Deal and Director Linda Mecham.

The meeting was called to order by Sarah Sandridge at 5:48 p.m.

Agenda review – No changes to the agenda.

Approval of minutes – Deyanira Escalona Trochez made a motion to approve the March 14, 2023 minutes. Christine Deal seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report – The financial report was presented. At the end of April we were 58% into the new fiscal year. The expenditures average 56.3%. We are right on target with expenditures. We have received 54.4% of our anticipated revenue.

April 2023 bills were presented. Christine Deal made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Deyanira Escalona Trochez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report:

- Circulation and library usage for this time of year increased over the previous year by more than 600 circs. We did some outreach to Jefferson Elementary this month which added to our program attendance.
- We have all of our Summer Reading Programs planned. There will only be a reading incentive program for the teens planned by Brett Barker. Malinda Triola has planned the Friday events, and will be tracking reading through July. Aracely Domine-Raddatz has planned the Spanish summer event and is incentivizing reading in Spanish. Vicki Leininger and I will be going to Hazelton again. This will be our 7th year.
- Libraries were once again the focus of proposed legislation. HB227 was one on which our Representative Nelson was a committee member. They worked with ILA and ICfL. The bill mandated that libraries have a policy for material selection, and that it be reviewed every three years. The policy was also to include a method to restrict access to certain materials and a means for the public to challenge materials. This bill did not get out of committee. The other bill was HB314. This was passed by the House and Senate. It was vetoed by Governor Little, and was one vote shy of the 2/3 needed to pass. This bill would have allowed parents to seek a civil action fining libraries \$2,500. The only defense was that the library know the person in question was 18 or older through an ID, or be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This would put an end to student cards. Although these bills did not pass, it will not be the end of attempted legislations.

Unfinished Business

- No Unfinished Business

New Business

- The Director discussed the current budget preparation and sought direction from the Board. The board felt it was important to continue the current level of service and to focus on retaining staff through competitive compensation.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 pm.