



JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT (JCLD)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
Medford Branch Library
Large Meeting Room
205 S Central Ave, Medford, OR
August 18, 2022, 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Present at the meeting were: Board Members Eric Dziura (President), Viki Brown (Vice President), Susan Kiefer, Jill Turner and Kim Young.

Additional attendees: Kari May (Library Director), Kelda Vath (Assistant Director, Support Services) Brynn Fogerty (HR Manager), Ginny Auer (Foundation Executive Director), Brittany Brite (Finance Manager), Jacquelyn Bunick (Legal Counsel), Olivia Peasley (Administrative Assistant), and Val Nowak (Executive Assistant)

Guests: additional JCLS staff members and local community members

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President Dziura called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call was taken, and the land acknowledgement read.

INTRODUCTIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

Director May introduced Rick Simpson, Director of Pathway Enterprises, who presented JCLS with the Business Partner of the Year Award. Simpson thanked the Board and JCLS on behalf of Pathways Enterprises, and acknowledged their efforts and support.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Director Keifer moved to approve the meeting agenda. Director Brown seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Motion: Turner moved to approve all items on the consent agenda. Director Young seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

ORAL REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE

Director Dziura allotted one hour for public comment. Sixteen attendees shared comments, both virtually and in-person, and most focused on the proposed Land Acknowledgement, with a fairly even split between statements of opposition and support for the adoption of the statement.

REPORTS

Library Director's Report

Director May highlighted some of the popular programs presented in July, and discussed the progress towards expanding hours in the District.

Director Young shared an update regarding the Talent Urban Renewal Agency. The initiative did not pass, and will be instead be pursued at a later date.

Director Brown commented in support of the vaccine drives that were held, and that tests continued to be available for the community.

Southern Oregon Historical Society Report

Archivist Jan Wright and Doug McGeary shared usage statistics from the past few months, and noted that visits to SOHS have been increasing, and their hours have been expanded. Cataloging is going well, in both physical and online collections. They indicated interest in partnering in the future with JCLS to promote local Indigenous history. They finished the report by highlighting some partnership programs, and thanked JCLD for the donation of resources to supplement their local history collection. McGeary also thanked JCLS Marketing Staff for the help in producing a short-form documentary that released this week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Land Acknowledgement Policy

Director Dziura shared a summary of the creation process behind the land acknowledgement, and thanked community members for their input and comments. He read the purpose behind the statement, and clarified that it was not the intention of the District to provide an empty statement without backing it up with outreach efforts and action. He outlined the changes to the statement made since the last meeting, and then read the amended proposed spoken statement.

He shared that the statement had been diligently researched and was meant to acknowledge Indigenous people and to educate members of the public. He finished by stating that the ED&I and Policy Committees recommend the statement be adopted by the Board.

Director Turner asked regarding concerns of when the statement would be read, and Director May clarified that the statement would be read at programs and meetings intended for adult or teen audiences, as well as at large staff meetings and public meetings (such as Board Meetings). She reiterated that the statement would not be read at children's events.

Director Young acknowledged the struggle to provide a statement that can encompass and acknowledge a wide range of Tribal groups, and expressed that while she supports the concept and intention, she is concerned with its present wording.

Director Dziura acknowledged that the sentence structure of the statement could be amended to provide clarity and better reflect historical facts. He inquired whether the statement should be sent back to the Policy Committee for restructuring.

Director Young asked whether the policy could be voted on without adopting the statement. Director May replied asking the Board to consider adopting the policy with the condition that the problematic sentence be corrected as discussed.

Dziura commented that a Land Acknowledgement Statement supports the Library's values of inclusion and respect, and aligns with the Community Engagement goal outlined in the 2022-26 Strategic Plan, and asked that the change to wording not be made during the current meeting.

Motion: Director Dziura moved that JCLD adopt the Land Acknowledgment Policy pending an acceptable rewording of the statement.

Director Kiefer seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote, with Directors Young and Brown voting against, and Directors Dziura, Kiefer, and Turner voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Assignments for FY 2023

Director Young asked if the Technology Committee is still relevant. After sharing a summary of what the Technology Committee had historically been responsible for, and that these duties are now covered by other areas, Director Dziura recommended that the Technology committee be dissolved.

Dziura then gave a brief overview each committee and their respective responsibilities. Dziura asked if it necessary or desirable to change assignments as they stand. Kiefer and Young stated that they are content with the committees on which they serve, and it was concluded that the only changes in committee

memberships will be due to the shifts in elected positions. Director Brown will join the Executive Committee and assume the RVCOG liaison position by virtue of her appointment to Vice President at the July Meeting. Director Brown also indicated an interest in joining the advocacy committee. Director Dziura asked members to read the Board Committee Policy and be prepared for the year at hand.

Motion: Director Turner moved that JCLD approve the Board Committee assignments with the adjustments of appointing Director Brown to the Advocacy and Executive Committees, and the removal of the now-obsolete Technology Committee. Director Kiefer seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Eagle Point Carpet Replacement Project

Assistant Director of Support Services Kelda Vath asked the Board to approve a temporary week-long closure to the Eagle Point Branch in order for the carpet replacement project to take place.

Director Brown asked if the closure would affect the meeting room, and Director May reported that the meeting room would remain open and programs and meetings would continue as scheduled.

Motion: Director Turner moved to approve temporary closure of the Eagle Point Branch. Director Brown seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Directors Turner and Kiefer reported on library branches they had visited during recent travels. Director Young commented favorably regarding the SDAO training the Board had attended the day prior.

Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i)

The Board entered into Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(3), after which they rejoined the public meeting already in session. No decisions were made, and no action was taken as a result of the session.

ADJOURN

President Dziura adjourned the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

/s/ Val Nowak
Recording Secretary