



## King County Library System Board of Trustees Meeting

KCLS Service Center  
5pm ♦ August 28, 2019

### PRESENT

#### KCLS BOARD

Angélica Alvarez  
Pamela Grad  
Max Harned  
Ron Higgs  
Robin McClelland  
Anne Repass  
Lalita Uppala

#### KCLS Staff

Julie Acteson  
Beth Castleberry  
Jenny Engstrom  
Maria Hatcher  
Nicholas Lee  
Tess Mayer  
Cynthia McNabb  
Jed Moffitt  
Lisa Rosenblum  
Bruce Schauer  
Greg Smith

### MOTIONS APPROVED

1. Board Meeting agenda
2. July 31, 2019 Board meeting minutes
3. Payroll expenditures
4. General Fund #0010 expenditures
5. Capital Project Fund 2005 #3070 expenditures

### CALL TO ORDER

President Lalita Uppala called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Pamela Grad moved approval of the Board Meeting agenda. Anne Repass seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

### APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

*Angélica Alvarez moved approval of the July 31, 2019 Board Meeting minutes. Ron Higgs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Lynn Meagher said she wanted to speak to Executive Director Lisa Rosenblum's responses to questions posed last month during the Public Forum. First, Ms. Meagher heard Ms. Rosenblum say that some had confused Drag Queen Story Hour with the Teen Pride event. Ms. Meagher said she wanted to assure the Board that she knows the difference between the two and that both are problematic. Second, she was told that kids planned the Teen Pride programming. That response, in her opinion, throws the kids under the bus and makes it apparent that no one at KCLS wants to take responsibility. She said teens need guidance, adults are in the room for a reason, and KCLS should take responsibility for its programming. Ms. Meagher said Ms. Rosenblum also said there were only three programs with drag queens, but there were actually five counting the Teen Pride event and Drag Queen Bingo. Out of all the wonderful programs that KCLS provides, she is not understating why DQSH is problematic; she doubts there are other programs generating this level of controversy, which is why the situation needs to be taken seriously. She said Ms. Rosenblum stated that she did not know what Ms. Meagher wanted, so Ms. Meagher wanted to clearly say that she and others do not want any more drag queen programming for kids or adults. She understands that there are no more planned and she would like it to stay that way.

Dawn Land said she has a beef with DQSH and anything related to the sexualization of children, but instead wanted to talk about her 12-year-old son who was able to use his library card to place a hold on a book about Kama Sutra, as well as Fifty Shades of Grey and other inappropriate content that children his age shouldn't be reading. She held up a book she found on a shelf in the teen section that includes stories told by transgendered youth, many of whom were sexually abused, who tell personal stories of sexual activity from a young age. She said the stories are sick and twisted and told by poor persons who need help. She said stories about sexually active six-year-olds glorifies sex abuse and should not be promoted to young kids in a celebratory manner. She does not want her or others' children to be exposed to that kind of content and said it is one of many books that sexualizes children.

Denova Weaver read the following written statement:

*It appears KCLS Executive Director Lisa Rosenblum was unaware of our previous statement outlining our requests, so we would like to submit the following to her and the Board. We request that KCLS:*

- 1. Regularly publish how much KCLS spends to underwrite the cost for staff to attend ALA conferences, pay for ALA membership fees and purchase ALA materials or services given their endorsement of Drag Queen Story Hour along with their workshops teaching ALA members how to counter community opposition.*
- 2. Assure taxpayers that no further drag events for minors will be conducted at any KCLS library or facilitated by any staff on or off-site.*
- 3. Denounce the Renton Teen Pride event as irresponsible programming that offered sexual products and information to children as young as 10, connected them with outside organizations that likely undermine parental authority such as Planned Parenthood, and hosted drag queens who solicited children to follow their pornographic social media.*
- 4. Put in place language governing all children's programming for example as follows: "Children's programming shall not reflect adult sexuality, sexual orientation, sexual or gender identities and shall not include or promote adult entertainers, sex workers or sex offenders."*
- 5. Dismiss any staff, especially those working with minors or in management, who have engaged in sexually explicit adult entertainment, sex work, or those who have posted sexually explicit content, as former KCLS Director Gary Wasdin likely did. He now directs the Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago, which is making leather, kink, BDSM, and fetish accessible through research, preservation, education and community engagement.*
- 6. Publish both legal and stage names on all promotional information for any children's event conducted by outside adult readers, speakers, entertainers, etc., for the duration of the event's advertising. Post the results of third-party background checks, including social media, for the named adults on the library's website 30 days prior to the event.*

*According to sexual predator expert Jon K. Uhler, predators who seek access to other people's children often hide their true identities behind a costume or dressing up and are always steeped in porn. In fact two DQSH readers have been exposed as sex offenders and one as a former prostitute in Texas over the past year.*

*So even background checks may not be sufficient if records are sealed.*

*I will conclude by quoting Mr. Uhler, "... of all categories of predators, none are as sophisticated in terms of intent, planning, disguising their intentions, their ability to manage impressions, and manipulate would-be victims as are men who desire to access children for their own deviant lustful purposes."*

Ms. Weaver provided the Board an open letter from Mr. Uhler to anyone considering drag events for children.

Helen Stanwell said she has been a patron of KCLS for over 40 years and has used libraries from Algona-Pacific to North Bend, and from Des Moines to Kirkland. She tutors students who come from homes where English is not spoken, and uses the library to help them print their school reports. She said she is using "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" as a lesson and recently visited the library to use the printer to print a color map of his route, and a black and white list of Revolutionary War vocabulary, but was dismayed to find out that she had exceeded her limit and couldn't print because it now costs 15 cents per black-and-white print and she only had 10 cents. She said a modern organization as large as KCLS should not have made such a radical change without asking for public input, especially from stakeholders. She said the new system is not working for her and has created chaos for those who are trying to figure out what is going on.

## **CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM**

Facilities Management Services Director Greg Smith reminded the Board that the 2019 Budget includes \$3.94M for a new Capital Investment Program (CIP) for anticipated repair and maintenance expenditures. This is the first time that KCLS has included a CIP in its annual operating budget and reflects the Library System's responsibility to properly maintain its capital assets that were newly constructed or renovated as a result of the recently completed Capital Bond program that voters approved in 2004. CIP requests are prioritized based on the following criteria: Health and Safety; Urgency; Support for a new program or initiative; and Estimated Useful Life (EUL) and Facility Condition Index (FCI). Improvement projects have begun and Greg provided a mid-year progress report.

Bellevue Library: Fire alarm upgrade; HVAC chiller replacement; carpet replacement (2nd floor)  
Fall City: Furniture and carpet replacement  
Federal Way: HVAC rooftop unit replacement  
Issaquah: Furniture and carpet replacement  
Kent: HVAC rooftop unit replacement  
Kingsgate: AMH installation  
Maple Valley: Restain exterior  
Mercer Island: Roof replacement, HVAC replacement  
North Bend: Furniture and carpet replacement  
Redmond: HVAC boiler replacement  
Sammamish: Repaved parking lot  
Valley View: Exterior painting  
Woodmont: Furniture and carpet replacement  
Woodinville: Roof replacement design phase

With the exception of Woodinville's roof replacement, which will not start until next year, all projects are anticipated to be completed in 2019.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK**

Organizational Performance Project Manager Lisa Fraser presented an overview of KCLS' Strategic Planning process. Starting in 2016, KCLS staff and consultants initiated a broad community engagement process to gather information about KCLS' diverse and rapidly changing communities. Four different community engagement activities targeted specific audiences and included community insights interviews, focus groups, online surveys, and community questionnaires. Staff anticipated the need to reach non-users and limited-English speakers, and created the means to include them. Each activity was designed to avoid library-centric thinking by eliciting feedback focused on two central questions: What are the most critical issues facing communities, and what role does the library play?

KCLS conducted 43 community insights interviews with public and private sector leaders from different market segments, and 48 focus groups that included Library Advisory Board members and Friends groups. Community questionnaires and an online survey drew 5,858 responses. In all, 6,174 participants provided responses. Most were in English and over 95% of respondents indicated they had a library card. Looking across all input streams, themes emerged that were associated with rising population density and urbanization, including overburdened transportation infrastructure; lack of affordable housing; increased socioeconomic disparity; and loss of community.

Respondents were also asked what they value about the library. More than 80% said they viewed the library as a trusted and important community asset and see having KCLS "at the table" as a benefit when addressing critical community issues. Although responses indicated that KCLS has influence in the community that extends beyond what the library traditionally provides, staff also wanted to know what the public expects from the library to ensure those things were included in KCLS' strategy. The free text question, "what is the most important work the library should do?" elicited traditional responses, such as open access, information and reference services; lifelong learning; reading and literacy; work/study/community spaces and expert staff. In describing their ideal library, keywords such as *welcoming*, *diverse*, *relevant*, *accessible* and *inclusive* appeared repeatedly.

The community's feedback formed the foundation for KCLS' Strategic Focus and refreshed Mission, Vision, and Values statements. These components serve as the framework of KCLS' strategic initiatives that will be supported by the 2020 Budget.

## FINANCE REPORT

July revenues year-to-date were \$67.9M, and reflect 54.1% of the total revenues budget. Year-over-year revenues increased \$2.0M, or 3.0% over the prior year.

July expenditures year-to-date were \$69.2M, representing 53.4% of the total expenditures budget with 58.33% of the budget year completed. Year-over-year expenditures increased \$1.2M, or 1.7%.

Expenditures in the Capital Investment Program (CIP) in July were 29% of the total CIP budget, and include expenditures in the following categories: Major Maintenance (30.5% category budget expended); New Construction/Remodels (23.5%); and Replacements (29.4%).

As of June 2019, total project budgets expended for the Kent Panther Lake and Boulevard Park Libraries are 93% and 86.1%, respectively.

## APPROVAL OF MONTHLY EXPENDITURES

**Angélica Alvarez moved approval of Payroll expenditures for July in the amount of \$2,948,754.04:** Jul 1-15 Ck#174151-174222; 270001-271253; Jul 16-31 Ck#174223-174291; 290001-291257. **Robin McClelland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Robin McClelland moved approval of General Fund #0010 expenditures for July in the amount of \$6,187,263.04:** Travel Advances - Ck#1384-1387; (07/09) Ck#1119535-1119664; 1119665-1119676; (07/11) Ck#1119677-1119746; 1119747-1119782; 5011209-5011234; (07/12) Ck#1119783-1119894; (07/16) Ck#1119895-1119953; (07/17) Ck#1119954-1120041; (07/18) Ck#5011235-5011259; 1120042-1120069; (07/18) Ck#5011260-5011262; 1120070-1120076; (07/22) Ck#1120077-1120128; (07/24) Ck#1120129-1120210; (07/25) Ck#1120211-1120272; (07/26) Ck#5011263-5011301; 1120273-1120323; (07/29) Ck#1120324-1120388; (07/30) Ck#1120389-1120410; (07/31) Ck#1120411-1120457; (08/01) Ck#5011302-5011304; 1120458-1120461; (08/02) Ck#1120462-1120509; 1120510-1120538; (08/02) Ck#5011305-5011323; 1120539; (08/05) Ck#5011324; Voids - Ck#1119638; 1119876. **Ron Higgs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Ron Higgs moved approval of Capital Project Fund 2005 #3070 expenditures for July in the amount of \$17,648.20:** (07/17) Ck#3074007; (07/30) Ck#3074008; (07/31) Ck#3074009-3074010. **Pamela Grad seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Lisa Rosenblum said Tukwila Village, which received a 2019 Governor's Smart Community Award, is an example of a great, long-term project that represents years of hard work. The project changed the area and was well worth the effort.

Along with Lalita Uppala, Lisa presented KCLS' annual report to the King County Council Committee of the Whole on August 21. This year's presentation included highlights of programs offered in each of the council member's districts, who expressed appreciation for the yearly updates. Several members also expressed thanks and appreciation to the KCLS Board and staff, especially over the last few months, for offering programs and events that serve diverse audiences in the community.

On August 27, the King County Council's Government Accountability and Oversight Committee confirmed the appointment of Max Harned to the KCLS Board of Trustees.

## TRUSTEES REPORT

Angélica Alvarez expressed appreciation to staff for offering "Let's Get Ready for Kindergarten" to support Tukwila school children during a void in programming due to school building closures during the summer.

Ron Higgs thanked the KCLS Foundation for an enjoyable and informative Art in Library program at the Foundation's annual summer reception.

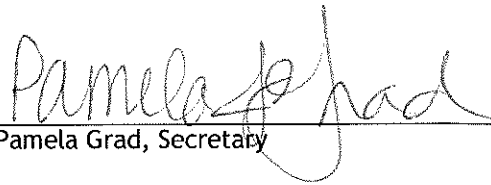
Max Harned also expressed appreciation for the event, noting it was well attended and very informative.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:28pm.

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Lalita Uppala, President

  
Pamela Grad, Secretary