



TO: Library Board of Directors

DATE: June 14, 2024

RE: **LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tuesday, June 18, 2024
5:00pm – Green Room
Worcester Public Library
3 Salem Square
Worcester, MA 01608

cc: City Clerk's Office

AGENDA
WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Board of Directors
Tuesday, June 18, 2024
5:00pm – Green Room
Worcester Public Library
3 Salem Square
Worcester, MA 01608

Mission Statement:

The Worcester Public Library serves as a gathering place that actively promotes the free exchange of ideas in our democratic society. The Library makes information and services available to all people while fostering intellectual freedom, protecting privacy, encouraging personal growth and enrichment, and celebrating our diverse community heritage.

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the May 2024 minutes
3. President's notes
4. Executive Director updates and report Q&A
 - Current report attached
5. Finance Committee report
 - Minutes attached
6. Administration Committee report
 - Minutes attached
7. Buildings and Grounds Committee report
 - Minutes attached
8. Friends of the Library updates
9. Worcester Public Library Foundation updates
10. Adjournment

Call in: 1-646-931-3860
Meeting ID: 829 7865 3732
Passcode: 596871

WPL Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, May, 21, 2024

Present: Stephanie Pasha, Katie Bagdis, Jessica Walsh, Moses Laguerre, Matthew Noe, Gail Schuyler, Sheila Trapasso, Christina Andrianopoulos, Sen. Harriet Chandler

Absent: Laura Miller, Roseann Fitzgerald, David Dominguez

1. Call to order at 5:05 p.m.
2. Approval of April 2024 Minutes
 - a. Gail asked that the minutes be changed to reflect that the meeting time for the Friends in the fall will be 5:30 p.m.
 - b. Matthew asked that an adjustment be made to the requests approved totaled \$21,864, not \$21,84.
 - c. MOTION: To approve minutes with proposed changes made by Matthew Noe. The motion was seconded by Gail Schuyler. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. President's Notes
 - a. WPL was not selected as a winner for the ILMS award. It was an amazing effort by our staff and patrons. We are pleased with the nomination.
4. Executive Director updates and reports
 - a. ED highlighted some of the information in his written report, including the following:
 - i. Visits, circulation, new library cards all up from February to March.
 - ii. Staff cleared over 4,000 accounts with March Meowness
 - iii. Celebrated Joel Keisling and Myron Malixi were nominated for Para librarian of the Year at Massachusetts Library Association Annual Conference.
 - iv. City Council Meeting May 14 – presented some of the partnerships between the WPL and WPS in response to a request for a report from City Council.
 1. Sora: App on kid's chrome books in WPS
 2. Kids have to add WPL as library but allows children access to many of our resources
5. Community Service Committee
 - a. Met since our last board meeting and discussed ways to enhance programs by partnering with other existing organizations/groups in our community.
 - b. Committee plans to meet as needed instead of monthly moving forward
 - c. MOTION: To approve minutes from the Community Service Committee made by Sen. Harriet Chandler. Seconded by Moses Laguerre. Approved unanimously.
6. Legislative Affairs Committee
 - a. Met since our last board meeting and discussed ways to position the library after Legislative breakfast.
 - b. Discussed new type of event to kick off the new legislative session.
 - c. Stand with Libraries Event – December 5, 2024 at 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.
 - i. Working to identify speakers for the event and ways to ensure good attendance at event
 - ii. Focus will be on inequities that libraries help to address
 - d. MOTION: To approve minutes from the Legislative Affairs Committee made by Christian Andrianopoulos. Seconded by Moses Laguerre. Approved unanimously.

7. Friends of the Library
 - a. Reported receipts of \$3,681
 - b. Now selling Cat Theme merchandise in store and at bonfire.com
 - c. Out to Lunch event scheduled for July
8. Worcester Public Library Foundation
 - a. Memorandum of Understanding between the Foundation and the Library is expiring this year. Discussions will be occurring to review and renew a new MOU
 - b. 2024 Mini-golf event was a huge success.
 - i. 185 attendees on Friday night
 - ii. 140 attendees on Saturday
 - iii. Net proceeds are anticipated to be around \$20,000, waiting to tally all expenses before providing final number
 - c. Author's Event date is set for November 14 – SAVE THE DATE
 - d. Annual Meeting is September 19 – SAVE THE DATE
 - e. Spring appeal was just sent out to all supporters
 - i. Reminder to board members to donate any amount to assist us in having 100% board financial participation in the organization which assists with future fundraising efforts

Adjournment: MOTION to Adjourn made by Moses Laguerre. Seconded by Gail. Adjourned at 5:48pm

To: WPL Board of Directors
From: Jason Homer, Executive Director
Date: 18 June 2024
Subject: Report of the Executive Director



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Celebrate Summer:** June is the start of Summer reading with its official launch on June 15th. Sign up for Celebrate Summer via our tracking program on Beanstack <https://mywpl.beanstack.org/>. Participants of all ages can fetch prizes just for reading and joining in these tail-wagging programs. From June 15 to August 10, WPL is rolling out a jam-packed schedule of free in-person and virtual events that'll have tails wagging and pages turning! Patrons can register anytime at <https://mywpl.beanstack.org/> and starting June 15 will be able to join the programs to start earning prizes.
Join WPL across all seven library locations for the start of summer reading at these fun-filled Celebrate Summer! events:
 - Main Library: Saturday, June 15, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
 - Roosevelt Branch: Monday, June 17, from 4 – 5 p.m.
 - Burncoat Branch: Tuesday, June 18, from 4 – 5 p.m.
 - Great Brook Valley & Goddard Branches: Thursday, June 20, from 3 – 5 p.m.
 - Tatnuck Magnet Branch: Friday, June 21, from 4 – 5 p.m.
 - Frances Perkins Branch: Monday, June 24, from 3 – 5 p.m.
- **Updated Events and Calendar:** The movement towards our new website has begun, necessitated by the need to get all of our Celebrate Summer events in the calendar. Now when you visit mywpl.org and visit any event page, you are actually in the new Communico system. From that page, users are empowered to customize their experience, we will have trainings once the website is built. If you would like to get started, visit: <https://mywpl.libnet.info/events> - at the top of the page you can filter to match your needs. Then along the right hand side you can make your own brochure, email to yourself, or set a subscription for events. Users could get a monthly email of children's events, local history events, or any of the moany categories and age groups for which the WPL creates events.
- **Strengthening our WPS relationship:** The inaugural month of the Library in Every Classroom project has yielded promising results. The strategic allocation of \$50,000 from special grant funds to strengthen ties with Worcester Public Schools has proven fruitful. This initiative not only fosters a deeper affinity for reading among students but also complements rather than substitutes the schools' obligation for their own libraries.

Through 10 school visits conducted in early June, the library has effectively disseminated information to students, staff, and teachers, elucidating access details for eBook and eAudio versions of designated summer reading titles. With a student cohort exceeding 7,000 from grades 7 to 10, ample copies of these titles are available in both physical and electronic formats.

Moreover, the library has augmented its own collections across branch locations by adding numerous copies of the recommended titles, catering to the interests of students and their guardians. Within the initial six days of the project, nearly 17% of the available eBook and eAudio versions were checked out via the schools' Sora platform, a reading application tailored for K-12 students.

Department Highlights:

Adult:

- **Major Taylor Documentary Screening:** On May 22 we hosted a screening of the new PBS documentary about Major Taylor to an audience of 70 people! After the film, a panel discussion was held with three-time Olympic track and field medalist Edwin Moses, producer/director, Todd Gould, Major Taylor's great-granddaughter Karen Brown Donovan, and historian Dart Adams.
- **Great Librarianship Stories - Connecting Families:**
 - Local History and Genealogy Librarian Alex was able to use our genealogical and local history databases to reconnect an elderly patron with his long-lost half-sisters. The patron was very grateful for the library's assistance.
 - Recently, a patron came to the N&M desk looking for information about his grand uncle. Unfortunately, he did not have specific dates to research. Alyson set him up on the microfilm machine and also researched on her own. Between them, they were able to find partial information. Her service impressed him so much that he wrote a complimentary letter and mailed it from Ireland. However, this is not the end of the story! Alyson continued to research and found more information on where his grand uncle was buried. Albeit, the patron did not leave behind a contact address and was flying out the next day. She retained the information in the hopes that he might visit again. She was pleasantly surprised to receive the thank you letter and was elated to see that he had listed his email. She checked with her supervisor if we could reach out to him with the information she had collected, and we did. The patron was delighted to receive more information on where his uncle was buried and also receive articles that spoke how well his uncle was thought of in the community. He sent his

heartfelt thanks in his response appreciating Alyson's expertise and kindness.

- **Cooking Classes Continue:** Dot recently facilitated a popular Vietnamese Salads cooking class presented by Trang Le, owner of Mint Kitchen and Bar. Trang is a great instructor, giving a background of Vietnamese cooking and culture in Worcester. She explained all the ingredients and where to purchase them. Trang and her assistant set up several stations for participants to prep the two different salads and dressings. She then demonstrated how to assemble all the ingredients into beautiful presentations. Participants enjoyed sampling their culinary efforts and were thrilled with the hands-on experience, and requested we offer more.

Dot proclaimed that this was one of our best cooking classes. When she asked Trang if she would be willing to come back to teach, she replied "Definitely, it's better than being at the restaurant!" She and her assistants really enjoyed themselves and all were a pleasure to work with.

Circulation:

- We conducted outreach at the vending machines in effort to promote and educate patrons on how to use them. We hope to see a continued increase in them over the coming months.
- We attended several outreach events including the very successful Touch a Truck at the JCC with Bookmobile.
- Tracy Baizely edited the English Library Card Application with the guidance of Lee Anne Hooley to make a large print application available.
- We continue to assist Tech Processing with the library weeding project. Tech has set up a workstation in the basement where staff are working to de-identify materials before they are sent to Baystate.

Community Resources:

- In observance of Mental Health Awareness Month, WPL's Community Resources Department partnered with staff from the MA Department of Mental Health to provide an expansive resource fair on 5/21. A drumming circle welcomed attendees in the plaza outside the main entrance, while thirty local agencies tabled throughout the Saxe Room, Banx Room, lobby and 1st floor area. Artwork and stories of healing and recovery were shared, and 15 large gift baskets of food and toiletries were raffled. In total, about 180 people participated.
- Katelyn gave six library tours this month, and among the three for Ascentria, interpreters for Arabic, Haitian Creole, and Swahili were present. See the photo

at left of Katelyn and several ladies from the Congo. Most of them are just starting to learn how to read and write in any language, and they were excited to explore the Children's section.

- It's been a year since we began hosting the UMass Mobile Medical Road to Care Van on YWCA Way each week. A total of 564 patrons received care, which averages out to 47 patrons per month. About 80% of the visits involve medically assisted treatment for substance abuse disorder—specifically, suboxone; about 15 % are for wound care due to xyxlazine abuse, diabetes or the hardship of living as an unhoused person, and the remaining visits are for general coughs, colds and flu. We are so grateful for their consistent presence here at the library!
- This month, we hosted staff from the COW's Department of Sustainability, Department of Transportation & Mobility, QCC, Better Life Partners, and New Start Brain Injury Center for a total of 30 hours. Staff from SMOC, the Sheriff's Office, and Everyday Miracles Peer Recovery Center spent 26 hours in the Community Resources Offices providing outreach support to patrons on a drop-in basis.
- Combining Katelyn and Azajuah's office hours and impromptu 1-on-1's provided by all Community Resources staff shows that 28 patrons received focused, expert help, for average of 20 minutes each, on resources including immigration, citizenship, language translation and ESOL learning, writing and resume help, mentoring, first aid, and social services of all kinds.



Frances Perkins Branch:

- **Record Program Attendance:** May was an incredible month for Frances Perkins. Total program attendance was a record 419 for the month, exceeding all available stats since 2021 (likely an all-time high, judging by the available numbers), and up 69% from April's 247. Nice! Adult attendance tripled April to May, going from 11 to 44, thanks largely to a new Yoga class which will be running through the summer, but the biggest draw of the month was the Animal Craze petting zoo planned by Rebecca, which drew a whopping 125 patrons! Many patrons came walking from the local neighborhood, but Kendrick street was packed with cars from visitors to the zoo.
- **Community Garden:** This month also saw the long awaited planting of the community garden at Frances Perkins in cooperation with REC Worcester. Two

beds with various vegetables and flowers were planted, along with some flowers which will beautify the otherwise bare strip of ground on the building's south side. Many rocks were painted by our patrons to create an 11ft long rock garden snake! A T&G photographer stopped by to take some photos, which resulted in a 1/3 of a page photo in the local section of the paper that Thursday. The garden has really helped beautify the south lawn and the recently purchased picnic table has been getting a lot of use.

- **Stories from Rebecca:**
 - During the petting zoo program, a teen girl brought her younger sister to visit the animals from a few apartments up the road. She stopped me and said, "can I ask you a question?" of course she could. Her question was, "It is my birthday soon and I'm turning 17. We weren't going to celebrate, but my mom was able to get me a cake. Would it be alright if we come here? I want to have my birthday here. Can we use the table?" Of course! She will be having her 17th birthday at our outside table.
 - On break I saw a regular of ours, Maya age 4, go skipping across the parking lot to our community garden. Her grandmother was trailing behind with her sibling. They stopped at the garden and looked at the rock snake. Then the grandmother starting pointing out the various plants. Maya was so excited and engaged.

Great Brook Valley:

- **Record Program Attendance:** Great Brook Valley ALSO saw record attendance in May, with a whopping 197 participants. This beats the last highest attendance numbers in February (108) by 82%. GBV has already reached 78% of last year's total attendance numbers with just half the year until their belt. GBV's visitor count has also reached a record, with 685 visitors reported for May – that's up 29% from last month and 52% from last May. Susan has been doing an amazing job with the teens at GBV, garnering a record 42 attendees, the highest since at least 2021. There have been more teen program attendees so far this year (100) than all of last year (66).
- **Animals Bring People Together:**
 - The big event at GBV this month was the Animal Craze petting zoo planned by Rebecca, which drew 95 participants. A good numbers of attendees came thanks to Missy's tireless efforts in building relationships with Worcester Comprehensive (a daycare about a block away) and the Boys and Girls Club (also located nearby). These relationships are expected to continue bringing attendees and circulations to the GBV library.
- **Consistency is Key**

- The Whimsical Workshops crafts program got a steady crowd this month (15, 15, 12, and 16 attendees) thanks to the consistent schedule and a switch to a calendar format for the monthly flyer.
- **Story from Missy**
 - A story from this month is related to the relationships we have built with many of the kids and families here. It is a huge part of what makes GBV so special and why I love that we have invested the time and money into sprucing it up in the last few months. Blake is a kid I met my very first day here almost 5 years ago. He was a challenge behavior wise, but we quickly developed a great relationship and the behavior issues vanished. A few years ago, he moved in with a family member and was no longer coming in every day. When he does come to visit his family here, he always stops in to see me and updates me on how things are going. He has visited twice in the last few weeks, the first time to share his news that he was accepted to Worcester Tech! Then he came in a few weeks later all dressed up for prom. Another regular from a few years ago also stopped in to show off his prom ensemble and one of young girls came in to show off her look for her dance performance that night. These are things that happen often here, but I think are important to share because it tells the story of why this library is so important to this community, especially the kids. We are not just here to check out books. They share their successes and their worries, play games with us, ask for homework help and sometimes even advice. We love when they come in to show us a good grade on a project or share photos of their vacations and that happens a lot as well. They also know we are a safe space and that is very important to us. Making the library a more welcoming environment goes a long way towards helping us build and maintain that connection with the community.

Mobile Services:

- Bookmobile attended their second Touch a Truck event. This time staff went to the JCC on Salisbury Street where 421 patrons came through the Libby bus.
- Jason Wargo attended an outreach event at Doherty High with Doug Lord where they promoted library services and registered new patrons with cards.
- Three new stops were recently added to Libby's route -
 - Genesis Club had 24 patrons come on board and they plan to work with local businesses on Lincoln Street to promote our services and partner during their stop.
 - The Hermitage had 3 patrons come on board

- St. Francis Rehabilitation had 13 patrons come on board

One City, One Library:

- **Hellos and Goodbyes:** May saw a bittersweet goodbye followed (immediately) by a joyous hello, as former One City L2 Megan McCraw accepted a promotion to become the new Programming GL (graduate librarian) for the One City, One Library program. She replaced Alicia Rogers, who moved on to become the new Tween Librarian at the Main Librarian. All in the One City program are extremely proud of Megan, and equally excited for her to begin work on a range of programming for all our One City branches!
- **Programming Highlights**
 - Roosevelt (ROO) hosted the Roosevelt Elementary School "Bear Expressions" Art Group in May, showcasing ROO students' artwork in the library for their Gallery Opening! The artwork, and the community collaboration, was beautiful!
 - Two One City branches enjoyed the Buildwave creative building programming event this month: Roosevelt and Goddard.
 - Tatnuck enjoyed a nature-themed storytime with MA author Maria Gianferrari, author of Thank a Farmer, To Dogs, With Love, and the 2017 ALA/ALSC Notable Children's Book Coyote Moon.

Talking Book Library

- The Massachusetts Library Association had their annual conference in Framingham. Kate went and presented to a packed room on the programming and collaboration that she has been doing with other libraries to serve the print disabled community. Joel was nominated for the Paralibrarian of the Year award. While he didn't win that award, he was presented with the Outstanding Innovation and Excellence award. This award has only been given out three or four times since its inception. We are proud of our TBL staff!
- The KLAS mini conference also took place this month. This is a two-day virtual event that brings users together to learn about new features, suggest modifications to the database, and discuss things such as reader's advisory and outreach. Lee Anne has been on the program committee and is working on bringing the in-person conference to Worcester in 2027. She also co moderated a program on running reports in the ILS.
- The National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled has offered network libraries the opportunity to receive braille Lego kits for free. We have requested 4 kits and hope to use them with our patrons in programming and possibly will loan them out.
- Another project coming from the NLS involves audio magazines. Since the seventies, the NLS has sent patrons magazines on cartridges on from their own distribution centers. That project is ending, and now the Talking Book Libraries

will be responsible for sending magazines to their own patrons. We're ready to take this new endeavor on, and service will begin to patrons on June 13.

Youth Services:

- **Outreach:**
 - In May, Youth Services did some great outreach by attending Polar Park's Wellness Fair, Worcester Community Action Council's Community Clinic, and Grafton St. School's Multilingual Resource Fair. Early June is packed with school visits to get students excited about "Dog Days of Summer" and our Sora-Platform eBook collaboration with Worcester Public Schools, brought to us with the help of the Library in Every Classroom Grant.
- **Programming:**
 - Children's program highlights include a Haitian storytelling event to celebrate the 221st Anniversary of Haitian Flag Day. At this interactive event Haitian storyteller, Charlot Lucien, brought us to the faraway lands of Haiti to explore the fascinating aspects of its rich culture and traditions. Additional children's events at main included a visit from the Poop Museum, Planting Merigolds, and a Disney Cooking series.
 - Teen's Sewing Club remains a runaway hit! Teens are asking if they can do a fashion show, which we are strongly considering. Their interest in creating their own clothing has bloomed through support found in this program and we are thinking of ways to continue to grow their interest and skills. Other teen program highlights included Kudamsama flowers, Makeup 101, and Henna Tattoos.
 - We are eagerly looking towards the future and are very excited to have our 3 newest Librarians adding their programs to the mix for the Summer Quarter, beginning in June. Some events that they are planning include STEM & Phonics Storytimes, Om-M-G Yoga for Tweens, and a D&D club!
- **Collection:**
 - The Youth Team is gearing up for Summer by boosting the Audio-Enabled Book Collection (Wonderbook and Vox Books) and will introducing Tonieboxes to the Library of Things Collection just in time for the Celebrate Summer events; both products encourage auditory learning skills and audiobook appreciation and we recommend trying them out for yourself!
- **Continuing Education and Professional Development:**
 - Alicia Rogers presented an award at the 2024 Letters About Literature Ceremony on May 21 at the Massachusetts State House. Alica was a judge for the annual event hosted by the Massachusetts Center for the

Books, Representative Lindsay Sabadosa (First Hampshire), and NYT-bestselling Author Lunda Mullaly Hunt.

- Susan Elbag presented to a full-house at MLA in May about the Mass Teen Choice Book Award, how to participate in the book selection process, and how to get teens to participate in reading and voting. Susan has been on the committee since its conception and is now part of their marketing team.

WPL Board of Directors
Administration Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Present: Katie Bagdis, Matthew Noe, Laura Miller, Stephanie Pasha, Jason Homer

Called to Order: 5:02

1. Katie Bagdis appeared via zoom. Stephanie Pasha as President agreed to allow Katie Bagdis to vote on all matters which may arise during the meeting despite participating via zoom.
2. MOU
 - a. Further discussions on the positive impact the foundation has had on the WPL, financially and in many other intangible ways.
 - b. Review of presentation of Foundation review of its contributions to the WPL over the last several years, which is included in this report.
 - c. Jason indicated over the next 1-3 years, he anticipates asking the Foundation to assist in raising funds to renovate the Children's Room at the Frances Perkin's Branch and for the build out of the GBV branch once the space has been constructed. The total of these projects will be at least \$3M, which will require significant fundraising efforts.
 - d. It is important that we continue to support the Foundation so that it can continue its track record of unprecedented financial support over the last 5+ years.
 - e. MOTION: To approve revised MOU, which includes increasing the annual financial support to the Foundation to \$110,000 annually, with the understanding that section 1. a) will be inputted once the Library Board votes and approve our new purpose statement and section 4. b) will be looked into further whether disbursement of WPL funds has to continue to be paid bi-annually. Motion made by Laura Miller. Seconded by Matthew Noe. Approved unanimously.
3. Borrowing and Fee Policy
 - a. The committee was presented with a revised Borrowing and Fee Policy which would eliminate fines for library of things materials and launch pads so that we would now become a "Fine Free" Library, instead of a "Fine Free*" Library which previously had a notation that his applied to books and other reading materials
 - b. MOTION: To approve revised Borrowing and Fee Policy made by Matthew Noe. Seconded by Laura Miller. Approved unanimously.
4. Planning Performance Review for Executive Director
 - a. Review period will be September 1, 2023 – October 30, 2024
 - b. Committee and Executive Director will collaborate through summer to design self-assessment, board evaluation, and staff questions for direct reports
 - c. By October 15, 2024, all assessments will be completed and the Admin Committee will compile data and feedback
 - d. Between October 15 and November 15, Admin Committee will review results in conversation with the Executive Director
 - e. Final evaluation will be submitted for Board approval at the December meeting

Meeting adjourned at 6:05PM

WPL Board of Directors
Combined Admin/Finance Committee meeting
Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Attendance: Katie, Moses, Matthew, Laura, Stephanie, Roseann (Zoom) (admin committee/finance committee)

Foundation: Chrissy, Matt Irish
Jason Homer

Call to order 5:06

1. MOU with Foundation
 - a. Foundation made request that MOU reflect that WPL support to Foundation would be increased to \$110,000 annually in next MOU
 - b. Presentation from Foundation re: benefits/contributions from Foundation from 2018-2023
 - c. Discussion with administration and finance committee and foundation on additional information to support requests from Foundation
2. Motion to Adjourn: Made by Moses, Seconded by Matthew.

Adjourned 6:06

Finance Committee Meeting

Logistics Notes

5/28/2024

Called to order at 5:06 pm

Called to close at 6:06 pm

In attendance: Matthew Noe, Moses Laguerre, Roseann Fitzgerald (online), Jason Homer, Cara Stone, Stephanie Pasha

Joint Meeting with WPL Admin Committee; meeting largely directed by Admin leadership, so see their notes in addition to these.

Discussion revolved around the MOU with the WPL Foundation and the potential increase in the amount of funding from the WPL Board Trust Funds are disbursed to the Foundation each year. A set of presentation slides are available for review covering the main arguments and the details of spending benefits.

A motion was made to increase the amount directed to the WPL Foundation from \$60,000 annually to \$110,000 annually. Motion made by Moses, seconded by Roseann, passed unanimously. This will proceed to the Admin committee for consideration before being presented to the full board for final approval.

May 21, 2024

Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting.

Attendees: Jessica, Christina Andrianopoulos, David Dominguez, Stephanie Pasha, Cara Stone, Katherine Bagdis

Jessica, Chairwoman, opened meeting at 5:55pm.

1. Ben Izaurraleu- Librarian for Francis Perkins presented a Power Point showing the Growing Garden Project.
 - a. The presentation reviewed the project and it's educational aspects of the growing gardens, while also offering beauty and effective use of the grounds at the library. Partnering with UGrow that helps them with the entire cycle of the project. Planting starts May28.
 - b. Children can sign up to help with the entire process from seeding to watering and watching the garden grow.
 - c. In addition, they have stones they have the children paint that continues to be added to the decoration of the gardens. One of the fun stone creations is the snake.

Cara reviewed all grounds projects taking place or are being planned:

1. Library landscaping—LY there was a city grant that helped with the landscaping and plants that surround the library. It is supposed to be part of the Park and Recs city budget but the library has not been maintained.
2. She is working with Jim Pickard to get quotes for upgrades and maintaining the landscaping. The costs came in between \$30--\$40,000, which is prohibitive.
3. They found Kewild Native organization who can do all of it for \$9,000 and maintain the grounds/plants. But the library has to provide the flowers and flower beds.
 - a. The library foundation stated they would share in these costs, working with Ben Fleming.
4. The planter boxes need attention too and may be removed in the future since there is no budget for now.
5. The Safety Inspector came to audit the property and gave a warning about the landing not having a fence. This is like that to allow for deliveries, but the Library was given a deadline of 30-days to get it upgraded with the fence/barrier. Joel went to the Department of Public Services (DPS) and they will pay for the fencing.

Chairwoman asked for motion to close the meeting at 6:55pm.

David motioned and seconded by Christina A.