

Community Library Network
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday 16 March 2023
Post Falls Library

2:00 – 5:00 pm

We Empower Discovery

Agenda

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm

Roll call: Trustees: Katie Blank, Regina McCrea, Judy Meyer, Rachelle Ottosen, Vanessa Robinson
Treasurer: Michele Veale
Staff: Janelle Sells, Michelle Fansler, Twylla Rehder, Mark Foster
Guest: June Garcia, Katie Brereton

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Speakers must state name and community and speak for no more than 3 minutes.

Persons addressing the Board are expected to observe a level of civility and decorum appropriate for a public meeting.

No personal attacks or disruptions from audience members will be tolerated.

- Charity Joy, Hauser - she discussed Blank's statement at the beginning of the meeting. She referred to materials not suitable for minors. She believes the Board is promoting pornography to minors. The Trustees are unfit to serve when they support the current materials.
- Karen Campbell, Hayden – She comes before the Board with love and truth. The truth matters and God's word is truth. She quoted several verses from the Bible. The library does not promote truth and the Board will be held accountable to God.
- Emily Christopherson, Post Falls – She believes the Library Card for Minors is a good tool for parents. She is also concerned that it will not be effective. For many, the library is a safer place than at home. She spoke about the recently held libratory program. She thanked the Board for their service.
- Lis Worcester, Post Falls – She is following up on the five books she submitted for reconsideration. Three of the books were moved into the Adult section. She is in favor of the Library Card for Minors. Books still need to have labels on the outside of the book notating "Sexually Explicit Content". The fourth book was not moved to the Adult section but should be. She is resubmitting this book. She has not heard about the fifth book.
- Tom Hanley, Post Falls – He did not come to quote scripture. He noted that the public comment is a righteous anger. The Board has not fixed the problem of removing sexually explicit materials for minors. He noted that two of the Trustees seats are up for election and he is running for one of two seats.
- Tom Meyer, Hayden – God gave us his only Son as a sacrifice for our rebellion. We have rejected God's standard. He spoke about those standards. God objects to murder and hates homosexuality. Transgenderism is child abuse. Attempts to sexualize children is grooming children for pedophilia. He quoted a verse from the Bible.

- Tim Plass, Rathdrum – The quotations from books in past meetings have been difficult to listen to and are evil. Humans are created with basic appetites and desires. Appetites must be regulated with temperance and used for good. Encouraging a sexual appetite in minors is irresponsible. He announced his candidacy for a trustee position.
- Suzanne Kearney, Post Falls – The Marxist revolution is here. She noted in 1968 that pornography is not protected by the First Amendment in relation to minors. She quoted the definition from Idaho Code “harmful to minors”. No one is trying to censor books for adults. She quoted from the Community Library Network Materials Selection Policy. Sexualizing minors is a Marxist strategy and a danger to society. Marxism and liberty are incompatible. She referenced “The Naked Communist” by Cleon Skousen.
- Luke Emerson, Coeur d’Alene – He was deployed 3 times with LGBTQ service members. He quoted several verses from the Bible. He noted that there are many passages in the Bible that appear just as inappropriate as other books being challenged. He would like materials for LGBTQ material readily available for those members as they are more likely to commit suicide.
- Scott Scofield, Post Falls – He quoted from Hitler and President Biden. He stated there is a universal agenda to groom a child’s mind. The agenda is wrapped up in nice books. If these books were not in a library but a store, they would have to be in an adult book shop. He noted some news reports about child abuse. The Board is acting as an accomplice by distributing pornography.
- Marianne Cochran, Rathdrum – She noted that the Board held two special meetings about circulation. She noted comments from Blank and McCrea. She quoted from the book, “The Handsome Girl and Her Beautiful Boy”. The book is “lost” in the library system. She would like the book “weeded” out.
- Peggy Fry, Priest River/Post Falls – She understands people’s anger about offensive books in the library. A book she recently read, and she was very upset about the ending of the book. She found the book just as offensive.
- Marty Modance, Post Falls – He was a leftist in his younger days, and he is now conservative. Where is the First Amendment rights for conservatives. He refuses to be lectured to by those intellectually fraudulent.
- Daniel Fry, Post Falls - He believes that room capacity should be looked into for allowing the press into the meeting. He noted the reconsideration policy. He questioned what is defined as pornography for the library – is it a moral issue or ethical issue? The Library Card for Minors is a step in the right direction.
- Theresa Birkett, Post Falls – She is a mother and grandmother. She is against an option for juvenile cards. She is tired of parents shouting they want control of their child’s education but expecting library staff to police book selection. Parents should be monitoring what their child checks out and reads. The cost to implement juvenile cards will outweigh the benefits.
- Josiah Mannion, Hayden – He noted his background. He does not believe that corruption of minors is from books. Books are essential to the development of empathy, intelligence, and creativity. He thanked the Board of Trustees. The core work of public libraries is to provide a sustainable and open foundation for library and community futures. Libraries should strive to provide access for all members of the public. The librarians provide equally and with equity whatever anyone is looking for.
- Cathy Wagner, Post Falls – As a Christian woman, a mother, a grandmother, she is against the personal attacks on Board members and library staff. She is responsible for her children’s and grandchildren’s reading materials.
- Steve Hemming, Hayden – He quoted verses from the Bible. He thanked the women that are investigating the harmful materials in the library. He believes there is a huge sleeping giant in the community to vote in good trustees.

- Kate Hartley – Statement given by Heather Greenman, Post Falls – She noted books she spoke about at the last meeting. She stated that the books were quietly moved to the Adult section. She wants to know why they were reclassified. She also referred to the book, *Identical* by Ellen Hopkins. She wants the library to admit this book is pornographic. She quoted from *Identical*.
- Charles Coats, Post Falls – He is a dad and son of a librarian. He is angry about books with explicit sexual content being available for minors without parental permission. A very small amount of books purchased go against community standards. The reconsideration process is designed to stifle reclassification. The Board has been neglectful protecting minors.
- Florie Stolz, - She is a former special education teacher. The library has been very important to her raising her children. The books are very pornographic and disgusting. She feels her freedoms are being taken away by allowing these materials. The library should be promoting temperance and morality. These books should be in the adult section or behind a secure area so minors cannot read them.
- David Dires, Statement by Stephanie Wolf of Post Falls – She showed a book that was on the used bookshelf, *The Human Body Book*. She talked about a legislative bill that will allow libraries to be sued for materials on the shelf. She feels the libraries are trying to pull a fast one by providing smut.

Break from 3:22 pm to 3:29 pm

Library Card for Minors discussion: action item (*30 minutes*)

- The draft policy for Library Card for Minors was presented. McCrea noted the policy is not being presented under duress. June Garcia has been retained to help craft this policy. Blank read from the draft policy. Three levels of minors' cards are being offered. Parents can choose to link their parental card to their child's card. Ottosen would like some form of informed consent language added to the policy, such as "parents should be aware that children may be exposed to sexually explicit materials in the various sections for minors in the libraries; that some will feel are inappropriate for their children". Robinson noted that the material reconsideration process would not be changed as a result of this new policy. Garcia suggested that "informed consent" can be part of the implementation plan or added to the Materials Selection Policy. She noted that the two most access limiting cards would allow cardholders access to only the Community Library Network materials. Access to collections from member CIN libraries would not be eligible for borrowing using the two most limiting minor library cards. A parent should have to sign a document and be given take-away collateral document with informed consent language. Blank noted that immoral or sexually explicit mean different things to different people. She is in favor of including a document for parents to take. Meyer talked about collateral materials already in place regarding parents' responsibility. She believes it is important to provide parents tools to manage their child's library access. Blank noted that parents must choose what access they would like their child to have at the library. McCrea asked why limited access cards would not allow books to be selected from other libraries. The card will be constrained by how materials are reclassified by the new item type. McCrea noted that Post Falls has a collection size of 76,000 items and add approximately 800 new items every month. The world of literature has changed, and the Board is trying to be responsive. It will take time to implement the policy and may require several steps to be fully implemented. Foster noted that testing will be required and re-cataloguing all the materials will take time. All items will need to be assigned a new item type. McCrea is in favor of some sort of notification to parents regarding informed consent but not necessarily stated in this policy. Brereton thinks that "informed consent" would be communicated better at the time of card sign-up. She noted that "informed consent" has a very specific legal definition and she does not want to expose the library to a duty that by law they do not have. She would like more time to research. Blank would like to keep "informed consent" on future agendas and work with Brereton about the best place for such a statement. Garcia noted that library material access for minors is based on the material item

type and not the child's age. Ottosen suggests "parents should be informed that children may be exposed to materials a parent feels are objectionable in any section of the library" in place of previous proposed informed consent language. Garcia suggested waiting to discuss "informed consent" when the Interim Director can be present and when Brereton has had the opportunity to further research. McCrea moved to adopt the Library Cards for Minors Policy dated March 16, 2023, with a target implementation date for the Children's card July 1, 2023, and the Teen card by January 1, 2024.

M, C - McCrea

Director's report (*15 minutes*) No report.

Adult Programming Annual Report – Twylla Rehder (*15 minutes*) *moved to after Circulation Statistics – No Report.*

Consent agenda: action item (*10 minutes*) – No action.

Minutes of the regular meeting of 16 February

Minutes of the special meeting of 17 February

Minutes of the special meeting of 18 February

Minutes of the special meeting of 28 February

February CIN Financial Statements

Community Library Network February 2023 financial statements: action item (*10 minutes*) No action.

Community Library Network February 2023 reports (*5 minutes*) No discussion.

Circulation Statistics January (*5 minutes*) No discussion.

Executive session: (Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(a): To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need: action item (*45 minutes*) *moved to after Director's Report.*

McCrea moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(a) at 4:27 pm

Blank – Aye

McCrea – Aye

Meyer – Aye

Ottosen – Aye

Robinson – Aye

McCrea moved to come out of executive session at 5:02 pm

Blank – Aye

McCrea – Aye

Meyer – Aye

Ottosen – Aye

Robinson – Aye

McCrea moved to extend the meeting until 5:30 pm

M, C – McCrea

McCrea moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(a) at 5:06 pm

Blank – Aye

McCrea – Aye

Meyer – Aye

Ottosen – Aye

Robinson – Aye

McCrea moved to come out of executive session at 5:40 pm

Blank – Aye

McCrea – Aye

Meyer – Aye

Ottosen – Aye

Robinson – Aye

Director recruitment update: action item (10 minutes) No action.
Interim Director extension

Trustee continuing education (5 minutes) No discussion.

Facilities updates (5 minutes) No discussion.

Legislative updates (2.5 minutes) No discussion.

Community announcements (2.5 minutes) No discussion.

Public comment overview (10 minutes) No discussion.

Discussion of future agenda requests (The board will decide via consensus whether these items will be moved to a future agenda) (5 minutes) No discussion.

Personnel Policy manual (request from Ottosen) – will be scheduled after new Director is hired

Set Special and regular meeting dates: action item (5 minutes)

- Special meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2023, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Post Falls

Adjournment: action item

Meyer moved to adjourn at 5:40 pm

M, C - Meyer

Calendar of events:

18 Apr 2023	Regular Meeting	9:00 – 12:00	Athol
18 May 2023	Regular Meeting	9:00 – 12:00	Rathdrum
15 June 2023	Regular Meeting	9:00 – 12:00	Spirit Lake

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Phone: 208-773-1506 ext. 329

Email: ADAcoordinator@communitylibrary.net

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