



COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

3939 Central Ave NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5th, 2024

Approved

8/7/2024

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

Members of the public who wished to attend could do so in-person, or via Microsoft Teams at columbiaheightsmn.gov/join-a-meeting and entering Meeting ID 211 422 335 081 and passcode NfgDwf at the scheduled meeting time. For questions, please call the library at 763-706-3690.

The meeting was called to order in the Library Community Room by Melanie Magidow at 5:34pm.

Members present: Melanie Magidow; Rachele Waldon; Amina Maameri; Chris Polley. **Members absent:** Carrie Mesrobian. **Others present:** Justice Spriggs (City Council Liaison); Renee Dougherty (Library Director); Nick Olberding (Board Secretary); Elizabeth Ripley (Adult Services Librarian). **Public present:** N/A.

1. The Meeting Agenda was **approved as-is**.
2. The **Minutes** of the **May 1st, 2024**, Board Meetings were **moved and approved**.
3. **Review 2024 Operating Budget:** 41.53% of the year and 36.67% of the budget expended.
 - a. **42010/42012 (Equipment):** This line reflects costs incurred for the replacement of an interior security camera and an exterior parking lot camera (plus wiring), and the installation of a rugged outdoor Wi-Fi access point in the parking lot for public usage.

Community Forum: Opportunity for public input. No correspondence and no public in attendance. The City website has a Contact Form for each Board/Commission as a new method for the public to submit questions or concerns: https://www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/government/boards_and_commissions/index.php after clicking desired group, scroll to the bottom of their page to find the contact form.

New Business:

4. **Informational Presentation from Adult Services Librarian:** Elizabeth Ripley gave an informational overview of the essential components of her job and her impression of the diverse and accommodating community that is Columbia Heights. Elizabeth talked about different programs such as the Tiny Art Show (that gives participating patrons a sense of pride and inclusion); COPAL Licenses for All Bilingual Information Session (inspired by the new state initiative and a surge of interest in Spanish driver's license manuals); the social aspects of the Puzzle Contests; all-ages involvement in Winter Reads/Summer Reading Programs; craft programs like Weaving Water with Indigo Dyes in partnership with the MWMO; local author visits as part of a Saturday Scribes series. It was also mentioned that Columbia Heights embraces the idea of the library being a "third space" of the community (a place away from home or work where people can come together and just be--without expectations). Elizabeth mentioned the effort to continue to diversify the collection (other languages, materials, and formats) to reflect community needs. Also mentioned was the At-Home Delivery program offered to homebound residents and the volunteer Technology Docent who can assist visitors with technology-related tasks.
 - a. The Board expressed their gratitude. Chris mentioned that he may know some upperclassmen at CHHS who may be willing to be Technology Docents. The Board brainstormed some ideas for how to promote some of the existing programs.
5. **Proposed Elimination of the \$2.00 Fee for Replacing a Library Card:** Anoka County Libraries have already made the decision to remove the fee and their Library Board has approved it; CHPL would like to follow suit. The fee may present a barrier to youth who tend to misplace their library cards more often, and staff would like to remove as many barriers to library use as possible. The Library Board agreed with the sentiment. **A Motion was made to eliminate the \$2.00 fee for replacement library cards effective July 1st, 2024; it was unanimously approved.**
6. **Minnesota Ban on Book Bans Bill ([HF4373/SF3567-Art.7-Sec.2](https://legis.mn.gov/legislation/details/HF4373/SF3567-Art.7-Sec.2)):** Renee made the Board aware of the recent

Minnesota legislation prohibiting the banning or removal of books on the basis of their viewpoint or the messages, ideas, or opinions conveyed. Because CHPL and Anoka County Libraries already have solid collection development policies and Reconsideration of Materials processes in place, CHPL is minimally affected by this legislation. In future any formal Requests for Reconsiderations must be reported to the Minnesota Department of Education/State Library.

7. **2-Day Book Sale during City-Wide Garage Sale:** With the help of some of the Friends, the Library will host a small book sale on Friday/Saturday of the city-wide garage sale this weekend. We did not solicit donations for the sale due to lack of storage space but will weigh the possibility in future years.

Reports:

8. **April Operational Report:** Provided as an FYI.
 - a. No meeting in July; we should have 2025 proposed budget information ready for the August meeting.
 - b. New Friday/Saturday hours started last week. Went well, but there were a few issues with the automated lighting and badge readers that are now fixed.
 - c. Mississippi River Pearl artwork in the lobby provided by Art to Change the World will be here for one more week before it moves on to the next stop on its tour, the Stone Arch Bridge Festival.
9. **Board Books:**
 - a. Chris: ***Mutha: Stuff+Things*** Vincent D'Onofrio; ***Pluto Rocket (series)*** Paul Gilligan
 - b. Amina: ***Vitamin N: The Essential Guide to a Nature-Rich Life*** Richard Louv
 - c. Rachelle: ***Persepolis: The Story of an Iranian Childhood*** and ***Woman, Life, Freedom*** Marjane Satrapi
 - d. Melanie: ***Joy of Movement*** Kelly McGonigal; ***Shakespeare & Hathaway*** BBC (streaming on Kanopy)
 - e. Nick: ***Marvel's Spider-Man 2*** (PS5) Insomniac Games (available via Anoka County Library)
 - f. Justice: ***The Color of Law: Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*** Richard Rothstein
 - g. Renee: ***North Woods*** Daniel Mason

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas P. Olberding
Recording Secretary, CHPL Board of Trustees