

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:

Adam Weinacker, President
Deeda Seed, Vice President
Lu Marzulli
Cathy Stokes
Sarah Reale

THOSE EXCUSED:

Dr. Dan Cairo
Carol Osborn, Secretary
Ron McClain
David Wirthlin

ADDITIONAL STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Debbie Ehrman, Interim Executive Director
Gordon Bradberry, Assistant Director of IT and Facilities
Jace Bunting, Finance Manager
Liesl Jacobson, Assistant Director of Community Engagement

Daniel Neville-Rehbehn, Assistant Director of Customer Service
Quinn Smith, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications
Allison Spehar, Admin Manager of Equity and Org Development
Heidi Voss, Executive Administrator

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Adam Weinacker called the meeting to order at 4:36pm. He read the following statement regarding anchor locations for this meeting:

I, Adam Weinacker, Salt Lake City Public Library Board Chair, hereby determine that conducting the Salt Lake City Public Library Board meeting at an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location due to ongoing health concerns related to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

II. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF NEW FY22-23 PROPOSED BUDGET

This special session was called to discuss a change in the proposed budget that would provide funding for a service option in the Ballpark area.

- Debbie Ehrman, Interim Director, and Jace Bunting, Finance Manager, presented the proposed budget to Mayor Mendenhall on Tuesday, April 6. The mayor expressed concern the budget didn't include a plan for a library presence in the Ballpark area.
- The library leadership team put together options for a temporary library presence in the Ballpark area. This would allow feedback collection as the team prepares a longer term solution. This temporary location would include technology resources, holds pickup, a limited browsing collection, and reference services. The team asked the board to consider a new formally proposed budget at the regular meeting on April 25.
- The leadership team is still investigating how the library can provide services in the Ballpark area. They have considered a modular space parked in a vacant lot or using an existing storefront and remodeling it to fit the library's needs. They have estimated ongoing costs for staff, rent, and utilities, as well as one-time costs to build out the space and purchase furniture and collection materials.

The team prepared three funding scenarios:

- 1) Fund one half year operating from tax revenue and capital outlays from fund balance.
 - a) If this scenario was adopted, the team would add \$217,000 to the existing tax revenue ask. This would increase the certified tax rate.
 - b) This would only fund operating expenses for half a year, and we'd have to return to ask for more funds for continued operation.
- 2) Fund annual operating expenditure from new tax revenue and capital outlays from fund balance.

- a) Instead of asking for a prorated half a year of operating money, we would ask for a full year. This would provide funding for FY24.
 - b) This would further increase the requested certified tax rate.
- 3) Fund operating and capital outlays from fund balance.
- a) All funding would come from fund balance and not increase our request for next year's budget. This scenario provides no ongoing funding source for operating expenditures and would not be sustainable long-term.

Discussion:

- Board members asked why this request was so urgent and why a solution must be included in this year's budget.
 - The city administration and The City Library have discussed the future temporary location for a Ballpark library presence. There was some misunderstanding about the timing of implementation for this location. We both agree that focusing on gathering community feedback about library services must be a priority goal to inform long term planning.
 - The mayor clarified she is specifically interested in a physical library location in the Ballpark area within this calendar year.
 - It's up to the board to determine whether we include this change in the budget or not. The city and mayor have been supportive of the library's work and making the change would help maintain a good working relationship with the city.
 - If money is not included in this year's budget and we choose later to create the Ballpark location anyway, we would not have access to additional funds.
- Board members expressed frustration with the communication issues from the city administration and concern the plan for this Ballpark location may be rushed.
 - The team noted they're looking at this temporary location as an opportunity for focused community engagement to inform future steps 3-5 years out. In the Master Facilities Plan, the Ballpark area was identified as a gap in library services.
- Board members noted that if we want to move forward with the temporary Ballpark, they want to be sure it's fully funded. They expressed support for scenario 2, which would provide funding for a full year.
 - The library team agreed to adjust the proposed budget book to include funding outlined in scenario 2. There will not be time to redo the budget book on April 25, so this adjusted version will be final.

III. ADJOURN

- a. The board moved to adjourn the meeting, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:33pm.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

The next will be held

Monday, April 25, 2022, 4:00pm

Meeting will be held virtually via Google Meet