



The Board of Trustees Minutes

Special Meeting

Date: September 1, 2021

Attendees:

	<i>Trustees</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Guests</i>
Jennifer Darling	Robert Plantz	Andrew Mangels	
Kate Maver	Elizabeth Sheehe	Jana Nassif	
Jason Nolde		Karen Hunt	

The Board met in the Board Room of Westlake Porter Public Library. Elizabeth Sheehe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

New Business

Purchase of Multi-Function Devices

Bob Plantz moved to authorize the Director and Fiscal Officer to sign an agreement with Blue Technologies in the amount of \$35,904.00 to purchase MFDs and complete the work outlined in the MFD Replacement Request for Proposals. Jason Nolde seconded the motion.

The Fiscal Officer reported we are replacing 2012 machines to updated machines that will provide better service. Five bids were received and narrowed down to two (Blue Technologies and Konica Minolta). A committee visited the two companies and chose Blue Technologies, in part, because it is a locally based company and known for its great service. In addition, Blue Technologies has lower copy costs.

Jason Nolde asked if we are purchasing the equipment and then paying for services. The Fiscal Officer explained we are purchasing the equipment and then pay per copy, which covers the service costs.

Roll call vote followed: Jennifer Darling – yes, Jason Nolde – yes, Bob Plantz – yes, Elizabeth Sheehe – yes.

Resolution 11-21: Adjustment to the Automation Fund (475) budget

Jason Nolde moved to accept Resolution 11-21. Jennifer Darling seconded the motion.

The Fiscal Officer explained the adjustment is needed because the MFDs were originally included in the 2022 budget but the purchase was moved to 2021 because the machines were getting older.

Roll call vote followed: Jennifer Darling – yes, Jason Nolde – yes, Bob Plantz – yes, Elizabeth Sheehe – yes.

Resolution 12-21 – The Board awards the contract for the Landscape and Lighting Improvement Project to Standard Landscaping Services, Inc. as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, in the amount of \$126,900. The Direct and Fiscal Officer are authorized to sign the contract with Standard Landscaping Services, Inc. and any related documents for the Project.

Jennifer Darling moved to accept Resolution 12-21. Bob Plantz seconded the motion.

The Director explained this contract is just for the Reading Garden Renovation. Much of the work is deferred maintenance and electrical work that needs to be squared away. This will make the area safe and regenerate the foliage.

Jason Nolde asked if a scope review was conducted. He is concerned because the resetting of pavers as needed is open to interpretation. The Director explained in the past, this step is conducted later. Jason Nolde stated a scope review should be conducted before a contract is awarded to guard against new discoveries.

Kate Maver entered the meeting at 6:28 pm.

Bob Plantz asked if there is an argument for waiting on the garden project until after the space planning is completed. The Director explained this is a pretty finite space that needs work to be refreshed and kept safe. The use of the space will not be changed.

Jason Nolde stated he would defer to the Director's judgment but agrees with Mr. Plantz that it is an expensive project. Mr. Nolde was also hoping it would include a variety of seating and more than just a refresh of the area.

Elizabeth Sheehe commented that would increase the cost significantly. Ms. Sheehe also commented she views the space as a unique space for peace, quiet and tranquility.

Jason Nolde feels the space is underutilized, but that may be his personal experience.

Mr. Nolde asked if Deru made a recommendation of what plants should stay, what should go and what should be added. The Director explained it is all laid out in the plans.

Elizabeth Sheehe pointed out if something is not right after the scope review, we would not enter into the contract.

Bob Plantz stated the area does need to be refurbished.

Roll call vote followed: Jennifer Darling – yes, Kate Maver - yes, Jason Nolde – yes, Bob Plantz – yes, Elizabeth Sheehe – yes.

LGBTQ Programming

The Director explained that a program that is slated to be offered, The History of Drag, is worthy of discussion because the word "drag" has been polarizing in many communities. He wants to ensure the Board is prepared for discussions. The Director believes it is in line with programming we have done, but if community members are unhappy, it could come back to the Board. He would like to ensure the Board is prepared and comfortable.

We have been doing LGBTQ programming and have had multiple displays. The proposed program is an adult program on the History of Drag. The topic is controversial, whether it should be or not. The Director explained there are consequences to offering controversial programming. This program is a history program and aimed at adult audiences.

Elizabeth Sheehe would like the Director to prepare responses and talking points for the Board.

Elizabeth Sheehe would rather defend having a program rather than cancelling a program.

The Director stated he would get more information from the staff member who organized the program and send the Board an email with the updated information. Kate Maver and Elizabeth Sheehe both stated they would attend the program in support.

Jennifer Darling completely supports the program. She is grateful to have discussed it and wants the Board to be comfortable if asked. She does believe a topic such as this should be vetted before a contract is signed.

Jason Nolde asked if this program has been done at another area library? The Director does not know.

Elizabeth Sheehe commented it sounds interesting.

The Director commented it is important that we stay true to our values.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Recorded by: Karen Hunt, WPPL Sr. Administrative Associate

Attested by:

Elizabeth Sheehe, WPPL Board President

Jason Nolde, WPPL Board Secretary