



**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024**

5:30 P.M.

DOWNTOWN RENO LIBRARY 301 South Center Street, Reno, NV 89501

Library Trustees:

Ann Silver, Chair

Tami Ruf, Vice Chair

Jacks, Trustee

Lea Moser, Trustee

Marie Rodriguez, Trustee

- 0) Salute to the Flag – Led by Assistant DA Herb Kaplan
- 1) Roll Call [Non-Action Item]
Present: Ann Silver, Trustee Jacks, Vice Chair Ruf, Trustee Rodriguez, Trustee Moser (online).
- 2) Reports
 - a) Library Director Update by Director Jeff Scott [Non-Action Item]

Library Director Scott gave an update on Budget and failure of WC1 and proposed actions.
 - b) Downtown Reno Library Presentation by Library Branch Manager Kristen Ryan [NonAction Item]

Branch Manager, Kristen Ryan gave a report on activities, programs and services from the Downtown Reno Library, including training and after hour events.
 - c) Circulation Team Presentation by [Non-Action Item]

Library Technology Manager, Brenda Owens gave an overview of the Circulation Service Team.

3) Public Comment – Three Minute Time Limit Per Person [Non-Action Item] No discussion or action by the Board may be taken upon any matter raised under this public comment section until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda.

1. William Puchert – Spoke about opposition to library opponents and chair comment about failure of WCI as Christmas present, and misinformation spread about WCI.
2. Alana Fitzgerald – Thanks Director and staff for their service, urged trustees to work toward fully funding libraries.
3. Cate Salim – Thanked Trustees for change in agenda to put reports first on agenda, shares a story of her referral of friend to library for resources.
4. Drew Ribar – Spoke about next steps in his lawsuit, claims library budget issues are from leadership and discussed his opinion of budget issues.
5. Adrienne Santiago – Executive Director of the Northern Nevada Literacy Council, highlighted partnership with Washoe County Libraries that improved literacy for the community.
6. Sandee Tibbett – Thanked media in defeating WCI, asked board to provide a detailed budget and complained about library staff salaries.
7. Candace Powell – Thanked Board and Director for changes to library suspension policy, worried about weekend hours due to failure of WCI.
8. Douglas Miller – Spoke about his ban from library meeting rooms and thanked Director Scott and Board, disagrees with changes to suspension policy.
9. Cliff Nellis – Spoke about experiences at DSH and opposition to WCI and his opinions on morality.
10. Bruce Parks – Announced his constitution class at the library meeting room in February, asked to see Program Policy on upcoming agenda, presented ethics complaint, and his opinion on library budget submission.
11. Reva Crump – Said that library user numbers are inflated due to counting voters as patrons who used the library to vote, spoke about the bookmobile schedule and use, suggested closing library in rental space.
12. Naseem Jamina – Thanked board for moving reports to top of agenda, urged board and Director to work together, offered training from Freedom to Read Nevada, and spoke in support of library funding.
13. Janet Butcher – Does not approve of 2-minute limit for public comment, gave criticism of library budget, spoke about opposition to two high level positions created in last year, and about her opinion on WCI failure.
14. Eithne Barton – Spoke in support of libraries and the amazing things that libraries do in the community.
15. Bruce Foster – Called for forensic audit of library, talked about ALA leadership, spoke about morality and opposition to some library books.
16. Val White – (online) Urged board to investigate death threats of libraries, spoke about her experience at SV library, called for independent audit of library, and complaints.

4) Board Comment [Non-Action Item] – Limited to Announcements, Strategic Plan Activity, Updates or Issues Proposed for Future Agendas and/or Workshops

Chair Silver requested Room Use Policy to be on the January Board Agenda.

Trustee Jacks – Said hi to her kids, put out contact cards and encouraged anyone to send their contact info and she will contact them and thanked commenters.

Vice Chair Ruf – Thanked staff for their presentations, she is still experiencing email issues.

Chair Silver – Spoke about email issues thanked Brenda Owens for her help.

Trustee Rodriguez – Her email is working, spoke about her visits with library staff to learn more about our libraries.

5) Approval of Meeting Minutes

a) Approval of Minutes from the Library Board Meeting of November 20, 2024 [For Possible Action]

Trustee Jacks expressed that discussions are not in minutes and questions and criticizes the minutes process.

Assistant DA stated that the official record is the recording, and the written minutes are only for an overview of the meeting and that the library minutes are in compliance.

Trustee Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes, Trustee Ruf seconded the minutes.

Public Comment:

1. Bruce Parks – Said there is a problem with hearing Zoom and board mics are issues on recordings.
2. Cliff Nellis – Spoke about concerns of previous library minutes.

The November meeting minutes were approved by a unanimous vote of the board.

6) Old Business [Non-Action Item] None

7) New Business

a) Update on Library Director performance evaluation process (Non-Action Item)

Dave Solero gave an update on proposal for Library Director evaluation process suggesting a consultant to help with the process including a timeline.

The board discussed the options presented by Dave Solero, asked many questions about the process.

The Board requested to work with HR instead of a consultant and wants to create a new form for evaluation. Chair Silver asked for updates and possibly a copy of the form at the next board meeting in January.

b) Library Budget Review

Provided historical information about WCI and the budget changes since the recession of 2008.

Outlined what services and hours might look like with the budget cuts resulting from the failure of WCI.

WCEA will be advocating to maintain the 4.5 million in the library budget to avoid staff layoffs.

Board members asked questions of Director Scott and requested a more detailed and thorough budget review in subsequent meetings.

8) Staff Announcements [Non-Action Item]

1. Debi Stears, Collection Development Manager – Announced the one millionth check out of Libby eBooks and Audiobooks.
2. John Crockett, Branch Manager Incline Village – Shared patron compliment for staff who helped him with his internet connection issues via the Book a Librarian service.

9) Adjournment at 8:25 pm.