

# NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

April 17, 2018

12:00 p.m.

Main Library, 615 Church Street, Nashville TN 37219

**Members Present:** Keith Simmons, Robert Oermann, Gini Pupo-Walker, Joyce Searcy, and Katy Varney

**Members Absent:** Lucy Haynes and Sepi Khansari

**Library Staff:** Kent Oliver, Elyse Adler, Susan Drye, Jena Schmid, Larry Price, Felicia Wilson, Mark Crowder, Liz Coleman, Andrea Fanta, Lisa Bubert, Kate Rose, and Joanna Roberts

**Also Present:** Shawn Bakker, Nashville Public Library Foundation President; Carly Elliott, Assistant Metropolitan Attorney at Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County; Mark Naccarato, Political and Communications Coordinator for Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Local 205; Jeff Yarbrow, Tennessee State Senate

### I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Mr. Simmons called the meeting to order at 11:58 a.m.

### II. Metro Ordinance required to be announced at all Board Meetings

*“Pursuant to the provisions of § 2.68.030 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws, please take notice that decisions of the Nashville Public Library Board may be appealed to the Chancery Court of Davidson County for review under a common law writ of certiorari. Any appeal must be filed within sixty days after entry of a final decision by the Board. Any person or other entity considering an appeal should consult with an attorney to ensure that time and procedural requirements are met.”*

### III. Approval of Minutes: March 20, 2018

Mr. Simmons moved for approval of the minutes from the March meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Oermann and passed unanimously.

### IV. Library Director Report—Kent Oliver, Library Director

- a. Mr. Oliver mentioned that the February and March Metro Services Report indicated that, as a department, NPL was at the top as far as citizen satisfaction with services. This further validates NPL’s 2017 Library of the Year award. Also:
  - a. 74% of the overall respondents were satisfied, 13% were neutral;

- b. 70% of the respondents had visited NPL in the last year;
- c. The Services Report was conducted by Brian Kelsey, Chief Strategy Officer, Metro Finance
- b. Larry Price is coordinating the polling locations at branches. This has been made more challenging due to the change in the Mayoral election which involves additional early voting dates and a possible runoff election.
- c. Mr. Oliver brought up the current Security atmosphere and needs at NPL:
  - a. Saturday a patron became irate when asked to leave the premises and told that he was being suspended. The patron threatened to return to NPL with a gun.
  - b. The need to arm our Security Officers with Narcan to help deal with the opioid epidemic in Nashville. [Narcan (naloxone) is an opioid antagonist used for the complete or partial reversal of opioid overdose, including respiratory depression. Narcan is also used for diagnosis of suspected or known acute opioid overdose and also for blood pressure support in septic shock.]
- d. There are currently 2 branch closings:
  - a. Madison has been closed since last fall, and there has been a 3–4 month hold-up in the project;
  - b. North has issues with old water pipes but it's expected to reopen by the end of the week.
- e. Budget Updates:
  - a. Mr. Oliver presents to Metro Council at 4:30 p.m. on May 22 when he will field questions for about 15 minutes.
  - b. Shawn Bakker has been refining the Foundation's budget with Elyse Adler:
    - i. To reduce it by \$337K from last year;
    - ii. Expenses have been refined without impacting programming;
    - iii. Still short \$30K from goal
  - c. The 55th Annual State of Metro will be held in the Grand Reading Room at NPL on Friday, May 4 at 10:00 a.m.
- f. The Nashville Reads finale is on May 1, and the author of this year's selection will be at NPL. [*The Potlikker Papers*, by John T. Edge.]
- g. Next month's Board meeting will be at the East Branch.

## V. New Business

### a. *Security Staff Narcan Policy—Susan Drye and Mark Crowder*

Ms. Drye noted that:

- Other urban libraries are currently using Narcan, and Mr. Oliver stated that many urban libraries have trained their front-line staff to use it.
- Call times for emergency personnel are getting longer due to downtown Nashville traffic.
- There have been 2 overdoses in the past year and a half at the Main Library.
- At a training, Mark Crowder and Jeremy Gayer learned that you no longer need a prescription to administer Narcan.
- The Security team would try to have 2 Security Officers (if available) report to a possible overdose situation in the event that the patron became agitated.
- Ms. Drye proposes to the Board that NPL adopts this Policy at the Main branch to start.

Mr. Crowder mentioned that the Metro Health Department gave NPL 7 kits of Narcan doses. 1 dose costs \$80. Other departments that are equipped to administer Narcan are Metro Police and Fire, and the officers in Courts.

Mr. Simmons asked Ms. Elliott if Metro Legal was okay with this Policy and Resolution. Ms. Elliott said yes, Metro Legal was okay with it, and that NPL would be covered legally if Security Officers were armed with and prepared to and/or ever needed to administer Narcan. Mr. Simmons then opened the floor up to hear reservations and concerns.

- If we administer Narcan to a patron *not* having an overdose it will not harm them.
- Regarding a concern about administering a drug to a patron without their consent: NPL Security Officers are trained to do CPR on patrons who are unresponsive.
- If an NPL employee who administers Narcan reacts to the drug absorbing into their skin, what liability is on NPL? Ms. Elliott mentioned that this would fall under a Workers Comp situation.

Nashville Public Library  
Board  
April 17, 2018

Resolution Title: Administration of Narcan by Library Security Staff

History/Background/Discussion:

Narcan is a drug used to counteract the effects on a person who is unresponsive due to an opioid drug overdose.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse Report, 90 Americans die every day due to opioid overdose.

1. The Main library has experienced one case during the last year where two female patrons were passed out in a public restroom due to drug overdose. If they had not been discovered when they were, they would have needed Narcan to bring them out of any unconscious state.
2. Several other incidents over the past two years were documented where patrons were using and selling drugs in the public restrooms.
3. A Good Samaritan law is in place for the administering of Narcan similar to the one for giving life-saving C.P.R.
4. The benefits of the use of Narcan outweigh the cons.
5. Narcan is administered by a nasal spray and works immediately.
6. A person that becomes responsive after being given Narcan may become combative and disoriented. For this reason, only library security staff will administer Narcan in order to subdue the victim, if necessary, until first responders arrive.

7. Narcan administered to a person who is mistakenly thought to have had an overdose will not produce any negative side effects nor will it harm the person.
8. Narcan can be purchased without a prescription at CVS pharmacies and other pharmacies.

Recommendation: The Board approves the proposed Policy for the Administration of Narcan by Library Security Staff

Draftor(s): Susan Drye, Mark Crowder

Person(s) Responsible for Implementation: Library Security Staff

RESOLUTION 2018-04.01  
Administration of Narcan by Library Security Staff

WHEREAS, Nashville Public Library is concerned about the current opioid epidemic, and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is ranked number 2 for incidents of opioid overdose, and

WHEREAS, Nashville Public Library would like to create a safe and healthy environment for staff and patrons, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees to approve the Administration of Narcan by Library Security Staff policy, effective April 17, 2018.

Mr. Oermann moved for approval of Resolution 2018-04.01; Ms. Varney seconded the motion and it **passed unanimously**.

## VI. Staff Reports

- a. Donelson and Hadley Park Branches—*Kent Oliver and Larry Price*
  - **Donelson:** This branch renovation has been a year and a half in the making. Councilman Syracuse is envisioning this project to be the new “Downtown Donelson,” and would occupy the current shopping center area where Donelson Strike and Spare and shops are. NPL has an agreement that has been sent to Council. The project includes a \$2M+ purchase price, and the NPL branch would be an anchor on 1.75 acres with a front green space. It’s unclear who will develop, but this is a huge Metro renovation and collaboration, and includes moving the course of Cliffdale Road around the project. The project is contingent

on the Transit Plan, as NPL needs an additional requested \$10M to add to the \$6M that we already have.

- **Hadley Park:** NPL has \$0.5M in capital for site acquisition. NPL has met with TSU to ensure that we're part of their development plan. TSU is still scouting for locations.

b. Courtyard Update—*Susan Drye*

To determine the source of water leaks into the parking garage, tests were completed with food coloring. The tests included flooding the entire courtyard, the planters, the fountain, and the 8 drains, and it was concluded that there is a faulty drain that is causing the leak. The fix will require digging up a 10' × 10' patch of stonework, bringing in a plumber and a stone mason. We're hoping that this project will be Metro-funded since its building maintenance, but NPL is grateful for the \$0.5M from 4% fund to help with immediate needs. In addition, we're trying to be proactive with the courtyard going forward, especially around the stonework and tree roots.

c. Summer Challenge—*Lisa Bubert*

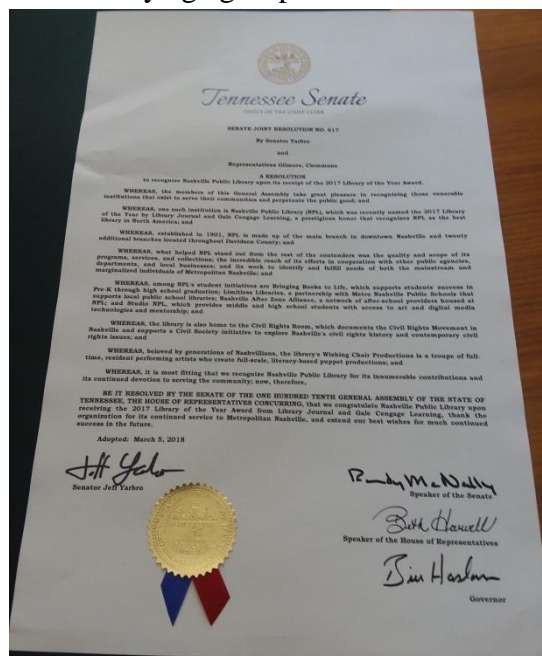
The Summer Reading Challenge runs from May 14–August 3, 2018. Research shows that children who read on level by grade 3 enjoy better grades in school, better job prospects, and better overall economic opportunities as they reach adulthood. Research also shows that young children who read, or are read to, just 20 minutes a day are far more likely to read on grade level, graduate, and become the lifelong learners we need. Nashville has a significant grade level reading problem. Currently, only 1/3 of our 3rd graders are reading on level—and those who are not reading on level by grade 3 will very likely stay behind for the rest of their school careers. Summer is a particularly problematic time as children and teens without access to summer reading and learning opportunities can experience what is known as the “summer slide”—a learning loss that slows school re-entry and that hits lower and middle-income children at a higher rate. The mission of NPL's Summer Reading Challenge is to raise the level of literacy awareness in our city and combat summer slide. With this challenge, we are challenging all citizens of all ages to read for at least 600 minutes this summer and complete reading and learning activities all summer long. There are prizes for every age group.

d. Violins of Hope—*Liz Coleman*

The Violins of Hope is a new exhibit of a collection of restored instruments played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust. NPL is the only venue in Nashville where this program is free, and the exhibit will be at the library through May 28, 2018. The collections of violins are in the gallery on the 1st floor, there is an extended exhibit with stories of Holocaust survivors on the 2nd floor mezzanine, and there are portraits of survivors on the 1st floor in the conference center hallways.

## VII. Senator Visit

Senator Jeff Yarbro, Tennessee State Senate, briefly joined the meeting to present Senate Joint Resolution 617 “to recognize Nashville Public Library upon its



receipt of its 2017 Library of the Year Award.” The Senator appreciates NPL’s work throughout the state.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

*Next Board Meeting—*

*12:00 p.m., May 15, 2018*

East Branch Library – Meeting Room

206 Gallatin Avenue

Nashville TN 37207

*Respectfully submitted by Kate Rose*