

Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes from September 21, 2021
Bellevue Branch Library, 720 Baugh Road, Nashville, TN 37221
Meeting Room – 12:00 noon

Members Present: Joyce Searcy, Kate Ezell, Robert Oermann, Charvis Rand, Katy Varney

Library Staff: Kent Oliver, Terri Luke, Lee Boulie, Susan Drye, Jena Schmid, Forrest Eagle, Steve Stokes, Luke Herbst, Lauren Gilpin, Katie Buchholtz, Montoya Townsend, Emily Kriebel, Kate Rose Collingwood

Others: Shawn Bakker, Nashville Public Library Foundation President, Brenda Waybrant, SEIU Local 205 Metro Chapter

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Joyce Searcy called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM.

II. Metro Ordinance required to be announced at all Board Meetings – *Chair, Joyce Searcy*

“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. Board Chair Comments, *Joyce Searcy, Chair*

Ms. Searcy and other Board members met with Mayor Cooper on August 25 to deliver the resolution that the Board passed. The Mayor was pleased that they were there to thank him.

IV. Approval of Minutes: July 20, 2021

Joyce Searcy moved for approval of the minutes from the July meeting; the motion was seconded by Kate Ezell and passed unanimously.

V. Library Director Report, *Kent Oliver*

Mr. Oliver mentioned that there is a lot of information in the Board packet since there was no meeting in August. NPL staff spend a lot of time working on this information and he wanted to point out these items:

- a. Circulation numbers are increasing.

- b. On page 11, NPL Universe programming numbers are broken out by virtual and in-person, and NPL is continuing to monitor these numbers.
- c. Mr. Oliver pointed out how many items the NPL Delivery team moves every day. Library systems at NPL could not operate without them. They are moving huge amounts of mail, packages, and books. As noted on page 18, over 371,000 items were moved in August.

VI. Nashville Public Library Foundation Report, *Shawn Bakker*

- a. Ms. Bakker thanked everyone who was able to attend the annual meeting last week.
- b. They are making efforts to host more opportunities to meet and attend educational programs.
- c. She mentioned that everyone should have received an invite to attend a social gathering of both [NPL and NPLF] Boards on October 20 at 4:00 p.m. at NPL. Weather permitting, it will be in the courtyard.
- d. NPLF continues to plan for the Gala which will be in person this year, the weekend of November 12 and 13th. The Patrons' Party will be Friday [November 12] and the Gala will be Saturday [November 13]. Both will be held at the Main Library. Colson Whitehead is committed to coming and will speak at the Public Lecture the morning of November 13. Reserving tickets is especially important this year since capacity is limited due to social distancing.

VII. Staff Reports

a. Bellevue Cluster Report, *Lauren Gilpin, Katie Buchholtz, Montoya Townsend*

Lauren Gilpin, Katie Buchholtz, and Montoya Townsend provided updates for the Bellevue, Hadley Park, and Watkins Park branches. Writer's groups and book club numbers remain strong at Bellevue since they continued virtually during the pandemic. Yoga is due to start again soon, with masks being a requirement. Patrons are starting to reserve meeting spaces again. Program spaces for children have socially distanced block squares to sit on. Over the last few months, all three branches have been working on weeding collections and rotating displays. Hadley Park was closed for 17 months. Watkins Park is reopening October 25, 2021. Montoya mentioned that the library is a happy place for many people in the community and NPL staff look forward to continuing to serve the community.

- b. Terri Luke introduced Luke Herbst, the new manager of the Bellevue Branch.

VIII. Facilities and Capital Repairs, *Susan Drye*

- a. Ms. Drye provided details and estimated costs for projects at all 23 NPL facilities totaling \$8.3 million in needed capital maintenance money. Funds are needed for renovations and 4% funds have been non-existent. Between capital funding and 4%, NPL currently only has \$3.4 million. Funding has been lean for the last 3 years and NPL facilities are aging. Priority will be given to fixing leaks at Main and branches. NPL will need to come up with a long-term solution for the Courtyard, as there is not enough money from the endowment to cover costs and maintain it going forward. NPL is working on a plan and Shawn Bakker indicated that the Robinson family will need to be involved.

IX. New Business

a. Collection Development Policy Update Resolution, *Jena Schmid*

Ms. Schmid presented changes to an existing Policy in Noel Rutherford’s absence. Revisions were pulled out since the entire policy is 31 pages.

Resolution Title: Collection Development Policy Updates

History/Background/Discussion:

Nashville Public Library’s Collection Development Policies are intended to inform both NPL staff and the general public about what we collect and why. It is not a static document but one that needs periodic amendment as the collection changes over time. As such, there are five areas in the policy that have been added or amended to reflect alterations to our collections and policies.

- A. Clarification of our Gifts and Donations Policy to update what material will be considered for possible addition to the collection.

<i>Current policy statement under the “Gifts and Donations” section:</i>	<i>Recommended revision:</i>
What will be considered for addition to the collection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Material in like-new condition• Books• Music CDs• DVDs• MP3 audiobooks• Audiobooks on CD (unabridged only)	What will be considered for addition to the collection: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Material in like-new condition• Books• DVDs• Board Games

- B. Nashville Public Library decided to integrate the Library Studies Collection into the Main library nonfiction collection this past year to facilitate better browsing and discovery. Therefore, it has been removed as a separate collection in our policy.

C. Nashville Public Library periodically adds new collections to attract new customers, respond to educational needs or to present information in a format best suited for learning and discussion.

Two new collections were added this past year:

1. Board Game Collection – a circulating collection of board, card, and tabletop games, housed in our Popular Materials division.
2. Votes for Women Collection – The Votes for Women Collection focuses on Nashville’s and Tennessee’s role in the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution and American women’s political movements, particularly in the South. It is located in the Votes for Women Room to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment.

D. Addition of statement about Periodicals in the Special Collections Division:

1. Periodicals – Periodicals and newsletters collected by the Special Collections Division include Nashville-related periodicals of all types, as well as historical and genealogical publications produced by Middle Tennessee county historical and genealogical societies; regional publications about the three Grand Divisions of Tennessee; and selective major national hereditary organizations and genealogical societies. Other periodicals include publications by scholarly and academic organizations concerning Southern and Tennessee history.

E. Revision and update to the description of the Nashville Authors and Tennesseana collections in Special Collections.

<i>Current policy statements:</i>	<i>Recommended revisions:</i>
<p>Nashville Authors The Nashville Authors Collection is made up of titles authored by residents and includes a number of different topics. Circulating copies of these titles may be available in the regular collection.</p>	<p>Nashville Authors The Nashville Authors Collection is composed of both fiction and nonfiction titles authored by Nashville residents. Nashville authors who write fiction or nonfiction <i>about</i> Tennessee subjects may have their books housed in the appropriate Tennesseana section within Special Collections.</p>
<p>Tennesseana This is the largest of our monograph collections and includes Tennessee, Middle Tennessee, Davidson County and Nashville local history, as well as Nashville City Directories and biographies about Tennesseans.</p>	<p>Tennesseana This is NPL’s largest monograph collection and includes Tennessee, Middle Tennessee, Davidson County and Nashville local history; Nashville City Directories; biographies about Tennesseans; and selected fiction set in Nashville or Middle Tennessee. Significant portions of the Tennesseana collection include published family histories about Tennessee families; published county records and other resources for Tennessee genealogical research; and local county and city histories for areas in Middle Tennessee.</p>

Recommendation: The Board approves the changes to the Collection Development policy.

Drafters: Noel Rutherford, Material Services Manager

Person(s) Responsible for Implementation: Material Services Department headed by Noel Rutherford

RESOLUTION 2021 - 09.01
Collection Development Policies Updates

WHEREAS, a Collection Development Policy is a fluid document, needing constant refreshing to keep it accurate as well as relevant, and

WHEREAS, new collections, formats and policies have recently been added to the Nashville Public Library, the collection development plan is in need of revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees to adopt the revised collection development plan as presented effective upon adoption.

Robert Oermann moved to approve these updates to the policy; the motion was seconded by Charvis Rand and passed unanimously.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Next Scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting

12:00 noon – October 19, 2021

Main Library

615 Church Street

Nashville, TN 37219

Respectfully submitted by Kate Rose Collingwood.