

**Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees**  
**Minutes from March 15, 2022**  
**Main Library**  
**615 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37219**  
**12:00 noon**

**Members Present:** Joyce Searcy, Kate Ezell, Robert Oermann, Katy Varney, Charvis Rand, Adriana Bialostozky, and Keith Simmons

**Library Staff:** Kent Oliver, Lee Boulie, Linda Harrison, Terri Luke, Andrea Fanta, Forrest Eagle, Hannah Gerst, and Emily Kriebel

**Others:** Derrick Smith, Assistant Metropolitan Attorney at Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and Brenda Waybrant, SEIU Local 205 Metro Chapter

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call
  - a. Joyce Searcy called the meeting at 12:01 PM.
- II. Metro Ordinance required to be announced at all Board Meetings – *Chair, Joyce Searcy*
  - a. “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*
  - a. Ms. Searcy praised the Votes for Women event featuring Billie Jean King and highlighted the need to partner with local organizations for programs. She also suggested sharing the Nashville Public Library Foundation budget with the Board. NPLF currently funds less than 10% of NPL’s programs. Ms. Searcy also welcomed Andrea Fanta back to the library.
- IV. Approval of Minutes: February 15, 2022
  - a. **Robert Oermann moved for approval of the minutes; the motion was seconded by Kate Ezell and passed unanimously.**
- V. Library Director Report, *Kent Oliver*

- a. Mr. Oliver noted a steady increase in statistics. Library visits, eMedia usage, total circulation numbers, and Limitless Libraries usage are all trending upward. He also expressed concern over bills currently in the Tennessee Assembly and how they would affect NPL's services. Mr. Oliver also spoke about the \$3 million in funding for Tennessee libraries. Currently, the House wants to split the funding equally between the four major cities rather than by capita.

VI. Staff Reports

- a. Main Children's Department Art Mural, *Pat Bashir*
  - i. Ms. Bashir is the manager of the Children's Department at the Main Library. She has advocated for a mural in the Children's Department.

Resolution Title: Art Donation: Rocio Eckhoff-WINGS Mural

History/Background/Discussion:

Artist Rocio Eckhoff, a local artist, has offered to donate a mural to be painted on a wall in the Children's Division of the Main Library. The mural will incorporate library elements (books, arts, wonder, fun, etc.) and iconic Nashville themes in the shape of wings. The wings will give the opportunity for children to stand in for photo opportunities that capture their visit at the Nashville Public Library and complements the theme of the design in the Children's Department.

Recommendation: The Library Board approves the acceptance of the mural donation by Rocio Eckhoff

Drafter(s): Jena Schmid and Pat Bashir

Person(s) Responsible for Implementation: Pat Bashir, Liz Coleman, Karen Piper, Rocio Eckhoff

RESOLUTION 2022-03.01  
Art Donation: Rocio Eckhoff-WINGS Mural

WHEREAS, the mural is a library-inspired mural that represents Nashville and provides an interactive activity as a backdrop for photo opportunities where visitors can capture a keepsake of their visit to the library,

WHEREAS, Rocio Eckhoff is a local artist based in middle Tennessee, born in Mexico, studied at Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education and Mokichi Okada Institute of Arts, and her works have been exhibited in the Museo del Carmen, Museo de

la Acuarela in Mexico City, the Museo de Arte Popular in Toluca, Mexico and Rippavilla Museum in Sprint Hill, TN

WHEREAS, the NPL Arts Committee has reviewed and approved the donation of the mural, and the Metro Arts Commission has reviewed the donation and have deferred donation approval to the Nashville Public Library,

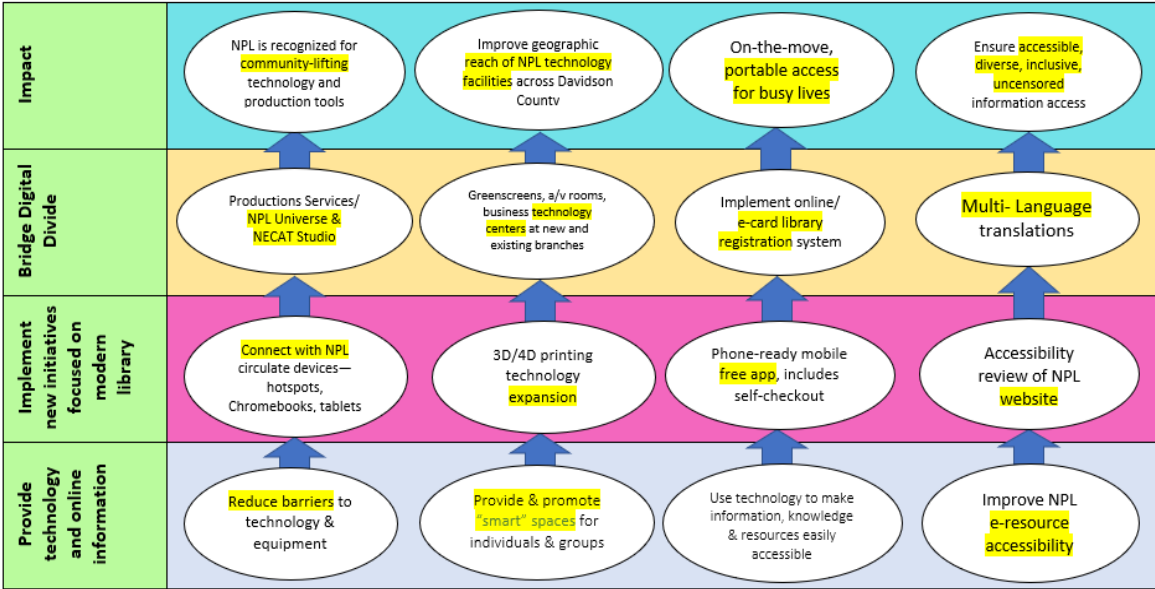
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees approves and accepts the donation of a mural by Rocio Eckhoff to be painted a wall in the Children’s Division of the Main Library

Katy Varney moved to approve the mural; the motion was seconded by Robert Oermann and passed unanimously.

b. Digital Divide Strategic Focus, *Lee Boulie*

Nashville Public Library: Closing the Digital Divide Strategy Map: FY 23-25

**Mission:** Through the use of Technology, Shared Systems, NECAT, & Collections, work to close the gap between those in Davidson County that have access to modern information and technology and those that don't.



**Values:** Accessibility for everyone, intentionally work to bridge digital divide, modern approach.

- i. Ms. Boulie is the Assistant Director for Collections and Technology, and she presented the above infographic which outlines how NPL will work to close the digital divide. She noted that some items have already started, including device lending and the launch of the NECAT website. Mr. Rand

asked how these goals would be prioritized, and Ms. Boulie explained that some will begin organically, and some will be dictated by community feedback surveys.

c. African American Music Passport, *Linda Harrison*

- i. Ms. Harrison explained the need for more passports. NPL currently has 50 passports in circulation and there are over 300 people on the waitlist for the passports. Studio NPL is working with the museum on potential summer programs and NPL is in the initial stages of creating a puppet show with the museum.

VII. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

**Next Scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting**

12:00 noon – April 19, 2022

Madison Branch Library

610 Gallatin Pike South

Nashville, TN 37115

*Respectfully submitted by Emily Kriebel*