

Daniel Boone Regional Library
Minutes, Meeting of November 16, 2023

Call to Order, Roll Call and Determination

Margrace Buckler, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

Daniel Boone Regional Library (DRBL) Board members present were Shannon Alvis, Margrace Buckler, Dorothy Carner, Mary Fennel, Jean Howard, Tonya Hays-Martin, Cori Miller, Khaki Westerfield, August Nielsen, Pat Powell, Kate Markie, and Nate Suttentfield. Jacqueline Kelly and Jenniner Rodewald were absent.

Also in attendance were DBRL Executive Director Margaret Conroy, and DBRL managers Karen Crago, Erin Magner, Amanda McConnell, Nathan Pauley, Jim Smith, Mitzi St. John, Abbey Rimel, Sheryl Bucklew, Sara Henry, Angela Scott, Kirk Henley, and other members of library staff.

Public Comment

Buckler welcomed all guests and explained the guidelines for making public comments.

Library staff member and union bargaining team member Ida Fogle spoke about her experience working at the library, as well as her experience serving on the Union bargaining team. She spoke about the time and efforts the workers have put in during negotiations and urged the Board of Directors to come to the next bargaining session.

Library Staff member and union bargaining team member Carolyn Cain spoke about her thoughts on the Subcontracting and Volunteers article. Carolyn added that she feels the Board should attend bargaining sessions.

Library staff member Kat Stone Underwood spoke about her love for the library and the staff members. Kat added that she felt upset that the contract was not finalized at the last bargaining session.

Library staff member and union bargaining team member Crystal Buffaloe asked the Board to come to the bargaining sessions. She told her account of the last bargaining session and her thoughts on the Union Rights article.

Library staff member and union bargaining team member Wendy Rigby read a comment from staff member Nigel Church. Nigel wrote about the importance of negotiating in good faith and having better insurance cost shares and wages. He wrote further about the importance of the union contract in making staff members feel safe in their positions and at the library.

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Former staff member Robin Duple spoke about the dedication and skills of the library staff members. She added that the workers deserve better pay and benefits.

Former staff member Chriss Jones spoke about her termination. She spoke about how she was a great staff member and requested a meeting with the Board to discuss her firing.

Columbia resident Gretchen Maune spoke about how the library has been a safe place for her, as a blind woman, as well as people of all backgrounds. She stated that she is concerned about the narrative she has heard about the negotiations and would like to see a fair contract.

Library staff member and union bargaining team member Tori Patrick spoke about the most recent bargaining session.

Library staff member and union bargaining team member Patrick Johnson read a comment from staff member Tracy Prince. Tracy expressed the urgency to finalize the healthcare article.

Columbia resident Rebecca Graves spoke about the importance of the library. She urged the library to raise the wages of staff members.

Minutes

There were no corrections or comments concerning the closed or open minutes of the October 12, 2023 Board Meeting. Both closed and open minutes for this meeting were approved as written.

Monthly Reports

Director's Report: Margaret shared that DESE has entered into a contract to bring the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to Missouri. While the library is not affiliated with this program, we will facilitate sign-ups for patrons at the public service desks.

Financial Report: Jim reviewed the October financial report, stating that we are on track to collect enough revenue from taxes. He also stated that we are on track to be under budget for expenditures due to staff turnover.

Service Report: Margaret reviewed the monthly statistics from October.

New Business

None

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Other Business

None

Staff Announcements

None

Board Comments/Announcements

Pat Powell spoke about a recent music program she attended that the library funded.

Closed Session

ACTION: Jean Howard moved, Cori Miller seconded entering Closed Session. Concerning Preparation as Authorized Under RSMo 610.021(9). Vote on the motion was taken by roll call: Alvis – yes; Buckler – yes; Carner – yes; Fennel – yes; Hayes-Martin -- yes; Howard -- yes; Markie – yes; Miller – yes; Nielsen – yes; Powell– yes; Suttentfield -- yes; Westerfield – yes. The motion passed.

Open session resumed at 8:22 p.m.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Buckler Adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Emily Camden.

Cori Miller, Board Secretary