Board of Trustees Meeting October 13, 2025

The Knoxville Public Library Board of Trustees met at the library on Monday, October 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Members present were Lindsey Carlson, Erin McBride, Elly Shaw, Dave Garcia, Jan Evans, John Mertz, and Laura Kendrick. Staff present was Ashley Miller.

The meeting was called to order by Lindsey Carlson. Evans moved; Garcia seconded to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025 meeting as mailed. Motion passed unanimously. There were no public comments. The only correspondence was from the Rotary Club thanking director Miller for coming to present at a recent meeting.

Ashley gave the librarian's report for September 2025. Total circulation for the month was 5,706. There were 526 uses of public access computers and 995 wireless internet access uses. There were 4,034 visits averaging 174 people a weekday.

The library had 27 programs throughout the month of September with 495 participants. Storytime picked back up and saw 105 children and 58 of their grownups. There was a back-to-school scavenger hunt in the library with 30 participants. DIY had another busy month with 22 patrons creating brick owls. 29 patrons came to 60s Musical Bingo. Trivia had another large turnout with 25 patrons present, and the numbers in Gerifit classes continue to soar with 112 patrons attending throughout the month.

The Jane Austen Society met for the first time in September as well as the Fright Club. 9 patrons came to the first meeting of the Jane Austen Society and 5 people came to the introductory session of Fright Club. The daytime book club saw 16 patrons and the Sequel saw 11. Adventure Pass is continuing to be beneficial for the community; 13 families benefitted from this service in September.

There will be a Board Learning Session with the Polk County directors on Zoom in the upcoming weeks. Ashley gave a run down on the ILA conference that was Oct. 1-3 and discussed banned book week.

Under Media Strategy Plan, the staff will continue to promote events in October through local news sources and social media with the publications of press releases to promote upcoming programming.

Garcia moved; Shaw seconded that the financial report for September be approved. Motion was unanimous. McBride moved; Mertz seconded the city trust financial report for September be accepted. Motion was unanimous. Kendrick moved; McBride seconded the approval for payment of bills for October. Motion passed unanimously, and a copy is attached to the minutes.

Under New Business, Ashley presented the board with an overview of the annual report for FY25. The report detailed the rise in numbers for not only circulation but program attendance. Per board request, Ashley also gave a presentation over the staff at the library and their roles. With this information the Board completed their monthly board learning and prepared elevator speeches for what the library has to offer and why being on the board is important.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, November 10, 2025 at 5:00 PM at the Knoxville Public Library.

Ashley Miller, Secretary