

Library Board Trustee Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025

Trustees

Jeff Kohler – Chair	Destinie Hart – Vice Chair
Laura Knutson - Treasurer	Josh Cummings – Trustee
	Josi Christensen – Trustee

Meridian Cherry Lane Branch
1326 Cherry Lane
Meridian, ID 83646
Conference Room

Regular Session

Trustees present: Trustee Kohler; Trustee Hart; Trustee Cummings; Trustee Knutson

Staff present:

Nick Grove, Library Director; Vassil I., Assistant Director; Dan P., Executive Manager; Ema B, Financial Manager; Jenny L., Material Services Manager; Holly D., Administrative Assistant

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1) Call to Order
 - a) Trustee Kohler called meeting to order at 7:00pm
- 2) Public Comment
 - a. Miste Gardner
 1. Gardner came before the Board to talk about her request for reconsideration on the book *Let's Talk About It*, asking again that the book be moved out of the teen section and into the adult section. She shared sections of the book with the Board.
 - b. David Pettinger
 1. Pettinger, a previous Meridian resident, came before the Board to share his thoughts on the book *Two Boys Kissing*. He also shared sections of the book with the Board.
- 3) **Consent Agenda [ACTION ITEM]**
 - a) Regular Minutes, February 19, 2025
 - b) Job Descriptions
 - i) Collection Development Librarian
 - c) Policies
 - i) Collection Development Policy

Motion passes by unanimous consent

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4) Financials

- a) Approval of January 2025 Financial Reports [ACTION ITEM]
- b) Disbursement approvals January 2025 [ACTION ITEM]

Motion to approve the January 2025 Financial report and disbursement approvals: Trustee Hart
Second: Trustee Cummings

Vote: all in favor

5) FY24 Audit Presentation and Acceptance [ACTION ITEM]

- a) Morgan Browning from Harris came before the Board to share the annual audit report. He went through each of the reports, explained what they are for, and shared the auditors' findings. The District was given positive remarks on all reports for the 2024 fiscal year. Trustee Cummings thanked the finance department and Finance Manager Brenneman for their work on this project. Finance Manager Brenneman noted that one of the Admin Assistants has started working exclusively with the finance department since October of last year.

Motion to approve the audit presentation: Trustee Knutson

Second: Trustee Hart

Vote: all in favor

6) Staff Presentation

- a) Pinnacle Update - Dusty W.

7) 2024-2025 Regular Meeting Dates [ACTION ITEM]

- a) Director Grove explained that with the upcoming renovations to Cherry Lane, the building will no longer be available for board meetings. With the Board's approval, the meetings will need to move to the Orchard Park branch. Trustee Cummings noted it could be advantageous to the public to have some meetings in North Meridian at Orchard Park, and some in South Meridian at Pinnacle. Chair Kohler noted that could result in "patron whiplash" trying to figure out where meetings will be held on a month-to-month basis. Trustee Knutson said it could work to have a handful of meetings at one location and then a handful at another, alternating in quarters rather than months. Trustee Hart said it would make the most sense to switch to Orchard Park in April rather than putting it off.

Motion to approve the remainder of the 24-25 meeting dates as originally presented in April:
Trustee Hart

Second: Trustee Cummings

Vote: all in favor

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8) Director Updates

a) Director's monthly report

- i) Director Grove and Assistant Director Ivanov shared their monthly updates with the Board, including a \$1,500 grant given to the Foundation from the Idaho Food Bank for after-school snacks at M.A.S.H. and 40 volunteers serving over 1,000 hours since the start of FY25. With the Cherry Lane renovations, the District is currently in the process of obtaining permits and preparing to accept bids for different aspects of the project. Several focus groups have been conducted with the community and with staff, and a communication plan is being developed to share information with the public and with staff.
- ii) Trustee Cummings asked about the dates for the communication plan. Director Grove said it should be around the beginning of April. Trustee Knutson asked about the CNC classes at unBound and what they are. Assistant Director Ivanov explained it's essentially a milling machine, used primarily on wood for creative projects. Director Grove said the CNC machine was added to the collection as an opposite to the 3D printing machines, a subtractive process as compared to the additive process of a 3D printer. Chair Kohler noted that the timeline for the Cherry Lane renovations depends largely on the permitting process and how long that will take. Director Grove said the District has no reason to believe there will be any major setbacks in that process, but no closure date will be decided upon until the next board meeting.

9) Job Descriptions

a) Executive Manager **[ACTION ITEM]**

- 1) Director Grove explained the changes on this job description are largely cleanup, but beyond the standard for the consent agenda.

Motion to approve the Executive Manager job description as presented: Trustee Cummings

Second: Trustee Hart

Vote: all in favor

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10) Policy Reviews**a) InterLibrary Loan Policy [ACTION ITEM]**

- i) Director Grove explained that InterLibrary Loan services with the current provider will be going away, as the prices have grown too high. This was a decision made by the Lynx Consortium leaders. ILL items are items sent to and received from libraries outside of the Lynx Consortium area. Other libraries in the area may continue to provide ILL services, but those would be outside of the District. The District is still accepting purchase requests from patrons. This policy will be archived.

Motion to archive the InterLibrary Loan policy: Trustee Hart

Second: Trustee Cummings

Vote: all in favor

b) Privacy and Confidentiality [ACTION ITEM]

- i) Director Grove said these changes were routine, getting them in line with other policies.

Motion to approve changes to the Privacy and Confidentiality policy: Trustee Hart

Second: Trustee Cummings

Vote: all in favor

c) Volunteers [ACTION ITEM]

- i) Director Grove said these changes were routine, getting them in line with other policies.

Motion to approve the Volunteer Policy as presented: Trustee Hart

Second: Trustee Cummings

Vote: all in favor

d) Display and Exhibit [ACTION ITEM]

- i) Director Grove said there was a small language piece that needed to be updated.

Motion to approve the Display and Exhibit Policy as presented: Trustee Hart

Second: Trustee Cummings

Vote: all in favor

e) Service Charge Policy [ACTION ITEM]

- i) Director Grove explained that InterLibrary Loan services with the current provider will be going away, as the prices have grown too high. This was a decision made by the Lynx Consortium leaders. ILL items are items sent to and received from libraries outside of the Lynx Consortium area. Other libraries in the area may continue to provide ILL services, but those would be outside of the District. The District is still accepting purchase requests from patrons.

Motion to approve the Service Charge Policy as presented: Trustee Hart

Second: Trustee Cummings

Vote: all in favor

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11) Request for Reconsideration Director Memorandums

Chair Kohler read a statement about the Board's role in collection development and protecting patrons' right to read while also upholding Idaho law. Once a request for reconsideration is received, it becomes a part of public record. Requesters acknowledge this when they sign the form. All requests for reconsiderations are available for viewing on the District website. Chair Kohler reminded those in attendance that the burden of proof is on the censor, as stated in the District's Collection Development Policy. He also clarified the process each of these books has gone through, including review by senior library officials, review by trustees, and the requester being notified within a reasonable amount of time. For each memorandum, the Board can decide to accept or reject the Director's recommendation, or take a different action of its choosing.

a) Title and author: *Pride 123* by Michael Joosten [ACTION ITEM]

- i) Director Grove filed a memorandum with the Board, citing the Material Services Department's findings on the book. He officially recommends keeping the book where it is in the collection.
- ii) Chair Kohler noted that the requester asked the book be moved from the children's section, but did not specify where it should be moved to. Trustee Hart noted that while some other books may have some merit for conversation, this one does not.

Motion to approve and endorse Director Grove's written recommendation of Pride 123:
Trustee Cummings

Second: Trustee Knutson

Role call

- 1) *Chair Kohler Yes*
- 2) *Trustee Hart Yes*
- 3) *Trustee Cummings Yes*
- 4) *Trustee Knutson Yes*

b) Title and author: *Let's Talk About It* by Erika Moen [ACTION ITEM]

- i) Director Grove filed a memorandum with the Board, citing the Material Services Department's findings on the book. While he officially recommends keeping the book in the collection, he also recommends moving it from Teen Nonfiction to Teen Graphic Nonfiction, since the book is written in the style of a graphic novel. It will remain in the Teen section.

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- ii) Chair Kohler noted that the requester asked the book be moved from the Teen section to the Adult section. Trustee Hart noted that this book is meant to educate teens on their bodies, not their sexualities. She said it does not appeal to the prurient interest of minors and that it does possess scientific value. Though she noted that individual families may not feel this is the right book for them, she also affirmed that the Board's job is not to impose individual beliefs on the public. Chair Kohler said that the Board's decision does not reflect the individual trustees' beliefs, but they do have a responsibility to provide a diverse collection to the public. Trustee Cummings noted that, as a parent himself, there are other books that he would rather his children read, but as a government representative, he believes this book belongs in the library's collection.

- iii) Trustee Hart said she appreciates the Director's thoughtfulness in considering this book.

Motion to approve the Director's report and recommendation of Let's Talk About It
Trustee Knutson

Second Trustee Cummings

Role Call

- 1) Chair Kohler Yes
- 2) Trustee Hart Yes
- 3) Trustee Cummings Yes
- 4) Trustee Knutson Yes

- c) **Title and author:** *Two Boys Kissing* by David Levithan [ACTION ITEM]

- i) Director Grove filed a memorandum with the Board, citing the Material Services Department's findings on the book. He officially recommends keeping the book where it is in the collection.
- ii) Chair Kohler noted that the requester asked the book be moved to the adult section. Trustee Hart noted, similar with *Let's Talk About It*, this book is being considered as a whole. Though some individual passages may be taken out of context, the book as a whole does possess literary merit.

Motion to approve Director Grove's recommendation to keep the book in the Teen's section Trustee Hart

Second Trustee Cummings

Role call

- 1) Chair Kohler Yes
- 2) Trustee Hart Yes
- 3) Trustee Cummings Yes
- 4) Trustee Knutson Yes



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12) Future agenda items **[DISCUSSION ITEM]**

- a) Trustee Knutson asked if, in a few months' time, the issue of Tiny Library's usage could be addressed. Director Grove said that Tiny is being looked at, and the options will come before the Board soon.
- b) Chair Kohler asked for further updates on the Cherry Lane updates as they become available.

13) Adjournment

- a) Trustee Kohler adjourned the meeting at 8:39 pm

The next regular Library Board Meeting is scheduled for 7:00pm, April 16, 2025

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED AND APPROVED



Nick Grove, Director



Jeffrey Kohler, Board Chair