

Minutes Public Meeting: WCCLS Executive Board

Final Location: [Zoom: register to listen here](#)

Time & date: Wednesday, May 27, 2020, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Attendance

Aloha: Jean Doan

Banks: Jolynn Becker

Beaverton: Abigail Elder, Chair

Cedar Mill: Peter Leonard

Cornelius: Rob Drake

Forest Grove: *absent*

Garden Home: Anna Heinrich, Lyndon Beckner

Hillsboro: Simone Brooks

North Plains: Andy Varner, Vice Chair

Sherwood: Joe Gall

Tigard: Marty Wine

Tualatin: Sherilyn Lombos

West Slope: *currently vacant*

Washington County: Ruth Osuna

WCCLS: Lisa Tattersall

Guests: Molly Carlisle, Colleen Winters, Kristen Thorp, Denise Holmes, Glenn Ferdman, Halsted Bernard, Adrienne Doman Calkins, Denice Bradbury, Jerianne Thompson, Karen Hill, Robin Doughty, Terri Palmer, Crystal Trice, Katie DuBrutz

Call to Order, Introductions, Additions to the Agenda:

Chair Elder called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm. Group welcomed Denice Bradbury, the new Communications Coordinator for WCCLS and Lyndon Beckner, Garden Home's new Library Association President. No additions to the Agenda.

Consent Agenda:

Drake motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda. Lombos seconded the Motion. Passed.

Review Election Results:

Tattersall shared the election results. Measure 34-297 passed by a higher margin in 2020 than in 2015. Lombos congratulated everyone on the hard work, particularly Tattersall, for the success in passing. Tattersall updated the group on the other county measures that were on the ballot. Both the Public Safety and Here Together measures passed.

COVID-19 Response:

Update on WCCLS reopening framework – Framework is pretty much done! The goal is to have all final updates complete by May 29. 9 focus groups, 145 staff participated, and 2.5 weeks of work to

create a 10-page document. Will continue to revisit framework with Library Directors as the situation evolves.

Discussion of temporary measures for library fines – Currently, no library user is getting assessed fines due to COVID-related library closures. Tattersall’s recommendation is not to assess late fines through September 30. This date lines up with the Governor’s ban on large gatherings and gives the libraries time to refine workflows and adjust to service delivery in the pandemic.

The group discussed pros and cons of no fines. Many shared their support for no fines. The group also discussed elimination of fines altogether, as it is part of the bigger conversation regarding equity issues. Drake asked if there was any data that discusses elimination of fines and impact on libraries. Tattersall advised that there have been studies. Lombos said a recent study in San Francisco called *Long Overdue* ([PDF link](#)) provides insight on eliminating fines. Tattersall will provide a summary of the studies so the group can make an informed decision in the future.

Elder inquired if sending patrons to collections has been suspended. Tattersall confirmed it is suspended; no one is getting notices or getting sent to collections at this point. Tattersall shared that Library Directors are interested in possibly getting rid of the collection agency long term and will discuss again with Executive Board before any steps are made to eliminate.

The group decided to vote on the continued suspension of late fees. Wine motioned to not assess late fees through Sept 30. Brooks seconded. Passed.

Library challenges and opportunities with reopening – Libraries shared their current reopening and summer plans. Tattersall shared that WCCLS led a joint partnership with the libraries to create more than 15,000 bags filled with a book and art supplies, to give to children at free meal sites this summer.

Review of Next Steps for Executive Board:

Tattersall noted that the current levy ends June 2021. Next step is to review the funding distribution for the next levy cycle. The goal is to have funding established by January, so libraries have time to complete their budget process. A review of the IGAs that rotate with the levy cycle will also need to happen.

Next Meeting: July 22, 2020 – Zoom virtual meeting

Adjourn: 1:50 pm

Submitted by Katie DuBrutz