

WEBER COUNTY LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES

Date: November 1, 2022

Board Members

in Attendance: Diana Allison  
Wendy Ogata  
Shannon Sebahar  
Reed Spencer  
John Watson

Board Members

Excused: Sandra Crosland  
Jim Harvey

Others

in Attendance: Bryan Baron, Deputy Weber County Attorney  
Karen Burton, Ogden Valley Branch Manager  
Phoebe Carter, Assistant Director  
Shari Creer, Friends of the Library  
Kathy Gambles, Friends of the Library  
Marcia Harris, Development Board  
Julia Valle, Business Office Manager  
Lynnda Wangsgard, Director

Public Comments:

Spencer called the meeting to order at 5 p.m., noting Crosland had asked to be excused.

There were no public comments.

Introduction, Ramin Broumand, President, Dolce Hospitality, dba Prego Cafes:

Spencer introduced Ramin Broumand, owner of Prego Cafes, who now holds the commercial lease for café space at the Main Library, Pleasant Valley Branch, and the Southwest Branch.

Broumand said he had 32 years of experience in the service industry, gained as the owner of a business that had contracts with large hotels in California. The business was operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week. He moved to Utah and decided to start a new business focused on food service. After assuming the leases on the Bean-a-Colada Café space, he spent five months retrofitting the areas, purchasing new equipment, researching and perfecting menu items, and contracting with high-quality suppliers. He planned to restart operations, one café at a time, beginning with the Southwest Branch. In this way, he said, he can have all of his employees work at the same location until they get the recipes correct and he can assure they are consistent in preparation of the menu items. The Pleasant Valley Branch will be the second café to be opened, followed by the Main Library.

His business model is to avoid competing with drive-throughs, but rather serve freshly made, very high-quality food, including salads, sandwiches, pastries and breads. Everything will be made on-site. His goal is to be a good partner and not embarrass the Library but rather add value and quality to the experience when people visit. The target date for the opening at Southwest Branch was December 1.

Broumand invited those in attendance to sample his proposed menu items upon conclusion of the meeting.

Spencer thanked Broumand for his introduction and report, noting he was looking forward to sampling the menu items later that evening.

#### Approval of October 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes:

Spencer called for corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, Allison moved approval. Sebahar seconded the motion. All voted in the affirmative.

#### Board Training Vignette – Reed Spencer:

Spencer reported on emerging trends in eMedia use, noting his interest in the exciting differences people choose to read and listen to books. He had met with Randy Mueller at the Main Library for the purpose of updating a report Muller had given during a meeting several months earlier. During 2021, Muller explained, 540,000 eMedia uses were recorded. This year, it is estimated that number will increase by almost 20 percent to 640,000. This growth is remarkable and shows no indication of slowing, Spencer said.

The “big idea” has always been that that if you buy a book it is yours to keep. Not so with eMedia. The Library can’t buy electronic media. eBooks are leased for a period of time, usually 24 months, and are then loaned in a single-use format; that is, to one reader at a time. A second model simply charges the Library each time a book is downloaded. With this second model, the Library budgets a certain amount of money for the platform and, once it has all been used, access is cut off. In order to prevent all the budget being used too quickly, usage is metered by day. If a title is not available one day, it may be available the next day. In this way, availability can be maintained throughout the year rather than having all the items loaned during the first few months and then having nothing available in subsequent months.

Weber County Library’s biggest eMedia supplier is OverDrive, a platform that makes downloads available via their Libby application (app). OverDrive’s model is two-year access, one user at a time. The Library gets to choose the titles that will be made available to readers. Participation in Utah’s Beehive Library Consortium allows the member libraries to contribute and share titles. The Utah State Library pays for the platform and purchases some content. The Beehive Library Consortium offers access to eBooks, eAudiobooks, streaming videos, and eMagazines. If something is fresh and new, OverDrive is the place to find it. Last year, Weber County Library cardholders had available 96,000 eBooks and 189,000 eAudiobooks at a cost of \$200,000.

Allison asked how many copies of each title are available.

Burton replied, saying there is a formula that is used to procure additional copies of a title based on a ratio of copies owned and number of readers waiting. A similar method is used to judge the number of paper copies that are needed. Staff also encourage people to place holds on another platform, or in another format, if possible.

Hoopla is a different life-form, Spencer noted. With Hoopla you get what the platform has to offer; staff cannot choose among all that is available. Charges vary and are based on demand. eBook titles available are usually more established and viable in the long term. The Hoopla collection has more than 500,000 eBooks available and also offers 140,000 eAudiobooks, 20,000 eVideos, and 277,000 eMusic titles. Use is not as big as with OverDrive and over half of the titles used by Weber County Library cardholders are eAudiobooks. The contractual arrangement is pay per use and approximately \$80,000 is budgeted annually.

A third platform, Kanopy, bills itself as thoughtful entertainment. Kanopy offers video streaming with special emphasis on classic movies and documentaries. Not as much budget is invested in this service, but it does fill an important niche.

Tumblebooks is a small platform with only 120 titles. It is unique in that the stories are performed by professional presenters. Like OverDrive, Hoopla, and Kanopy, it is a subscription service.

Project Gutenberg is a service that gives access to books in public domain. Books copyrighted typically become public domain 70 years after author's death. Books are scanned and made available in PDF format. Titles available, with a large number of "classics," can be found online at Project Gutenberg. There is not a charge for this service.

Other eMedia collections include, ALLDATA, an automobile, truck, and van repair database for both domestic and imported vehicles from 1966 to the present and Mango Languages that provides step-by-step lesson plans for over 70 languages.

Digitized issues of the *Ogden Standard-Examiner* and predecessor papers dating from 1879 to 1977 are available on various platforms and are searchable and browsable from the Library website. Access to other historical newspapers is also available.

Spencer noted that books and music are still available on CD (compact disc) and movies are still available in DVD (digital video disc) format, but streaming is replacing these older formats. Each format draws a different slice of community users into the menu of services, offering an excellent way to engage a larger user base.

Spencer concluded by noting the importance of physical place and touchable books in print format. Three of every four items borrowed are still in hardcopy format, he noted, but digital use is increasing and the Library needs to plan for it.

Sebahar asked if current movies are still being purchased in the DVD format.

Burton, said yes. DVD collections are still very well used and popular with a significant portion of the population.

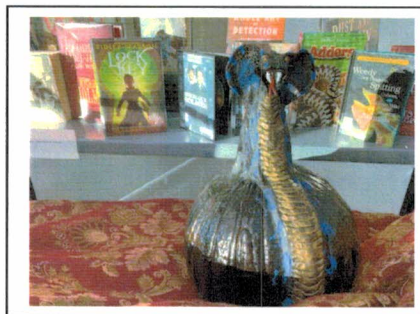
Spencer asked who would like to report during December. Sebahar said she was working on a project with Wangsgard and may be ready to report during the next meeting.

### Friends of the Library Report:

Creer reported on the Ugly Pumpkin Decorating Contest, noting Wangsgard scours the County for the ugliest pumpkins she can find and then each division creates an exhibit around their Cucurbita pepo and competes for the grand prize.

Creer and Gambles had toured the five Libraries and judged the exhibits, being careful to accept an amazing number of exquisite and tasty bribes that are traditionally offered to help solidify (sway) the judges' decision.

### Exhibits included:



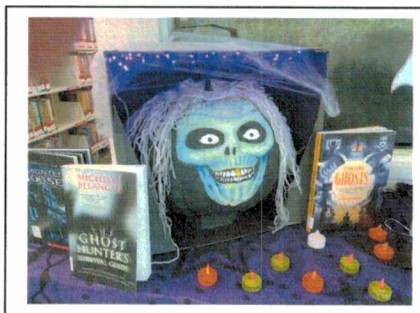
Sherlock Holmes Discovered the Snake "Done It"



Night at the Movies, Based on Kanopy



Wild West Scene



Disney Haunted Mansion



Creepy Pumpkins



SteamPunk Ship

Creer and Gambles have to select the grand prize winner which will be announced during a Friends of the Library sponsored-pizza lunch during November.

Gambles noted each of the Ugly Pumpkin exhibits featured a display of books, other items such as scavenger hunts, and all kinds of links to engage the public.

Gambles reported on the The Great Thanksgiving Listen, an extension of the StoryCorps visit to the Main Library during October. In sponsoring The Great Thanksgiving Listen, Friends were “inviting conversations, softening hearts, and making opportunities for people to share various points of view,” Gambles said. She was delivering placemats detailing the five steps to recording a StoryCorps interview and sample questions to ask in order to get the stories flowing over the dinner table. KUER Radio (90.1 FM) airs a different StoryCorps recording every Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. Other stories can be listened to by way of the StoryCorps website.

Community members were being invited to record and archive their stories at the Folklife Center at the Library of Congress throughout the year. Friends were advertising their program on Facebook, and by way of an email blast and a display at each library. Library staff will be available to help people download the StoryCorps app. Gambles was also delivering placements to schools in both the Weber and Ogden districts.

#### Director’s Report:

Wangsgard reviewed the financial report. There were no anomalies on the revenue side of the ledger. Allocations were being balanced between two expense line items, controlled assets and equipment. A final transfer will be made once all purchases are made to balance out the two expense categories.

The output measures report was a strong one with every item trending in a positive direction. A more detailed report will be made during December.

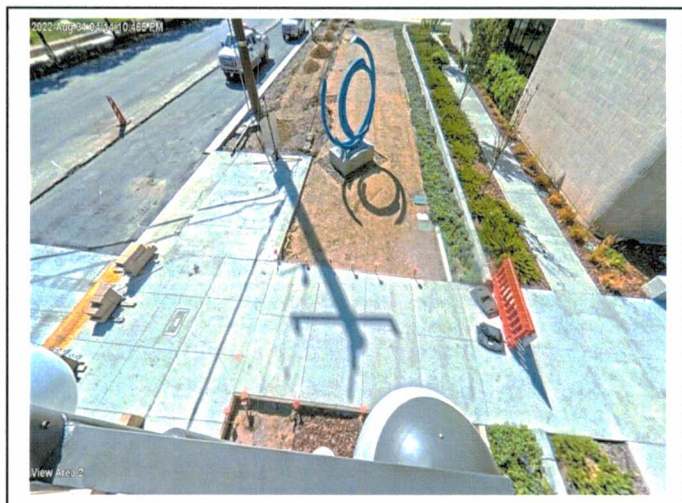
Wangsgard thanked Marcia Harris and Friends of the Library for their support of the Staff Association raffle that was conducted during the annual staff development day (SDD) training. More than \$1,500 in gift cards produced a hefty revenue stream for the Staff Association which provides acknowledgments for employees’ significant life events. Staff Association finances are managed by Valle.

Other SDD training included a presentation by Rob Volpe, an empathy activist, and a community engagement workshop led by Crowdsourced Comedy Troupe. Wangsgard extended a special thanks to Baron who came in on short notice to present a training on “The Right to Know.” The information Baron presented was especially welcomed by employees who were being called upon to field concerns from community members. The training day agenda also featured Randy Mueller who presented the newly completed and Board-approved Continuity of Operations Plan.

Ogata noted that she could tell employees were paying attention and were engaged by questions they asked.

Gambles said the improv event was a very effective way to engage and practice what was presented during the empathy presentation. They were both more effective because they were presented together, she said.

Looking toward the fiscal year 2023 budget, a meeting had been called to discuss plans for relocating the Blue Sky sculpture at the Main Library. Crosland and Watson had joined Jay Lems, the Library Board's architect; Brad Barto, Owner of Barto Construction; Robert Armstrong, Library Professional Property Manager, and Wangsgard. The group met on-site to review options for relocating the sculpture in order to protect it from vandalism that will result from a rapid transit stop being constructed within 18 inches of the base.



Watson said those who attended all noted they had a real appreciation for the art and the fact that it was donated made it even more special. Possible relocation sites were limited by underground infrastructure and locations that could properly frame the large work while paying homage to the symmetry of the new formalism building design. Access to electrical and data lines was also considered to facilitate lighting and video surveillance.

The tentative site selected was the southwest corner of the building, on the raised podium that serves to separate the building from the grounds below. This location will present the sculpture as a major feature of the site while also making it easier to protect from damage. The architect and his engineers, along with the contractor, will evaluate this option and look at relocation costs. These estimates will include removing Blue Sky from the base, moving it to a new base at the proposed location, and engaging the artist to refurbish the finish. The finished installation will have the same quality lighting and video protection that it now enjoys.

Watson noted that Wangsgard thanked everyone for attending, and Barto in particular for his help in costing the relocation, also reminding the group that the final project will have to be put out to bid. As-built drawings and geotechnical test results had been forwarded to Lems. Whatever the decision, the work will not be undertaken until the spring of 2023.

Harris asked if UTA will be asked to pay a portion of the relocation costs.

Baron said that would likely not be a realistic strategy since the transit stop is located on a public right of way.

Wangsgard noted UTA will be making some repairs to the grounds during 2023 but the timeline has not been announced.

Review and Approval of Café Menu and Sampling of Food and Drink Items:

Wangsgard distributed a proposed menu of items to be served in Library commercial lease spaces. Menu approval is required for all food that is served in the facilities in order to protect the books, carpets, and other items. For example, she noted, drinks with dyes are not allowed in the cafes or in meeting rooms.

Spencer proposed the Library Director be charged with overseeing the menu, and approving all items served.

Others agreed with Spencer, noting it was an impressive menu but the day-to-day oversight was best done by the Library Director.

Sebahar asked how the café opening would be advertised.

Wangsgard said advertising was primarily the responsibility of vendor, but the Library can send emails and otherwise announce a new opening with a business partner. It is in our best interest to get the word out, she concluded.

Other:

There being no further business Ogata moved to adjourn and sample the menu items provided by the new café operator, Sebahar seconded the motion. All voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Julia Valle

*06 December 2022*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date