

Board of Trustees Meeting
May 12, 2025

The Knoxville Public Library Board of Trustees met at the library on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Members present were Lindsey Carlson, Jan Evans, Elly Shaw, John Mertz, Dave Garcia and Laura Kendrick. Erin McBride was absent. Staff present were Ashley Miller, Holly Shelford, and Cari Meissner.

The meeting was called to order by Lindsey Carlson. Jan Evans moved; John Mertz seconded to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2025 meeting as mailed. Motion passed unanimously. There were no public comments.

Ashley gave the librarian's report for April 2025. Total circulation for the month was 6,231. There were 407 uses of public access computers and 1,225 Wi-Fi access. There were 2,553 visits averaging 98 people each day. The board and director have agreed to purchase a new door counter within the next month.

The library had 24 programs throughout the month of April with 896 participants. Out of the 24 events, 6 of them were public outreach with staff visiting the local elementary school, a literacy night, and the Earth Day Celebration on April 13. The library had grab and go craft kits for families and handed out 106 kits. There were 8 story times in the month of April; these promote early literacy and had a total of 105 children and 69 adults in attendance. DIY had a good turnout with 11 people. Trivia remains high in attendance with 26 participants. Additional programs for May include Sit n' Stich (5/17), the Sequel Book Club (5/20), an Artist Reception for Ellie Harder (5/22), Senior Living Bingo (5/27), and Trivia on 5/29.

The library will be starting a Geri-Fit program free of charge to anyone in the community. This will involve low-impact exercises with a staff member as instructor. In exciting news, the Summer Reading Program sign-up is at the end of the month 5/28-30. Youth Services Librarian Holly Shelford has multiple weeks' worth of programming scheduled through the entirety of June.

The Adventure Pass Program is in its final stages of being reinstated. The goal start date for those passes to the Blank Park Zoo, Science Center, and Botanical Garden is the end of May.

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

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

Under New Business, the board had a first reading of the Naloxone Policy. The motion was made to accept the policy. Evans moved; Shaw seconded to approve the policy as read. Motion passed. The board and director discussed goals for the future and how they align with the library's strategic plan. Everyone agreed it is the time to focus on the goals for outdoor programming that utilizes Dixie's Garden as well as Board learning. The library hopes to create partnerships between itself and other businesses and organizations in the community in the future. The board and director will continue to strategically plan over the next few meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, June 9, 2025 at 5:00 PM at the Knoxville Public Library.

Ashley Miller,
Secretary