



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Worthington Libraries Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 6:06 p.m. in the meeting room at Northwest Library with Joan Herbers presiding.

Members present were Kyla Dembowski, Elizabeth Grieser, Emma Mulvaney, Abigail Poklar, Haze Saputra and Joseph Saverimuttu. Also present were Jeremie Stevens, CFO; Monica Baughman, Director of Support Services; Theresa Messenger, Executive Assistant; Sam Lewis, Systems Administrator; Robert Hess, Computer Systems Analyst and Becky Princehorn, President of Friends Foundation of Worthington Libraries.

There was no public participation.

Update from Becky Princehorn of Friends Foundation. The Friends made a PAC contribution of \$3,961.00 which is 5 percent of their gross annual revenue. Books & Brews is scheduled for November 14, 2025, at Old Worthington Library. The Community Breakfast is scheduled for April 9 at Old Worthington Library and a spring event is scheduled for April 12 also at Old Worthington Library.

Jim McCourt of Meeder Public Funds gave a presentation on the investments of Worthington Libraries.

A motion was made by Ms. Grieser, and seconded by Mr. Saverimuttu, to adopt RESOLUTION #01-03-25 to accept and approve the items under the consent agenda at one time.

- Minutes – Regular meeting – Tuesday, December 17, 2024
- Fiscal Officer's Report of the Payment of Bills for December in the amount of \$1,062,835.43
- Fiscal Officer's Financial Statement and Investment Report for December 2024
- Gifts for December
General Fund – --\$50.00 from Jenifer Takats; \$150.00 from Rebecca Cotterman; and \$29.10 from Hailee English

Roll Call: Ms. Dembowski, aye; Ms. Grieser, aye; Ms. Herbers, aye; Ms. Mulvaney, abstained; Ms. Poklar, aye; Ms. Saputra, aye; and Mr. Saverimuttu, aye. Motion passed.

The following information items were presented:

- Director's Report – December 2024

Director's Report

December 2024

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

- Continued working on the ADKAR plan of Supervisor Expectations for 2025.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Attended Leadership Worthington meetings
- Attended the City of Worthington’s Leadership Roundtable
- Attended CLC governing council meeting
- Attended the MAC December Board Meeting
- Attended the Friends of the Worthington Libraries Holiday Party

FUTURE PLANNING

- Master Facilities Plan – attended touch base meeting for updates on the progress of the MFP.

LIBRARY NEWS

- Attended Legislative Breakfast hosted by CML

December 2024

Key Performance Indicators

	Current month	Change from last month	Change from last year	Sparkline
	December 2024	November 2024	December 2023	January 2022 – December 2024
Browse circulation	37,784	-13% ▼	-1% ●	
Hold circulation	25,762	0% ●	5% ●	
Total first-time circulation	63,546	-8% ▼	1% ●	
Attendance in library	44,071	-9% ▼	10% ▲	
Curbside/drive-up pickups	2,157	4% ●	1% ●	
Program attendance	1,279	-72% ▼	15% ▲	

	Current month	Change from last month	Change from last year	Sparkline
	December 2024	November 2024	December 2023	January 2022 – December 2024
Digital circulation	69,577	8% ▲	7% ▲	
Website sessions	89,595	-2% ●	11% ▲	
Telephone reference calls	1,297	-16% ▼	-11% ▼	

➤ Organizational Highlights – December 2024

ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

December 2024

Library Program Highlights

Pajama Dance Party

Seventy-five little kids and their families danced their way into the last month of 2024 during a December 3 Pajama Dance Party at NWL, hosted by Library Associate Ashley Brown. They read four books, had lots of rhymes and jammed out to all sorts of songs.

Create at the Library - Handmade Garlands



On December 4, Lead Librarian Karah Power coordinated a cozy craft night at OWL, with 28 patrons attending to make winter garlands for their homes. Patrons appreciated the seasonal event; many said they had wanted to make garlands, but could never find the time to set everything up. One attendee showed their gratitude by making library staff a beautiful wreath!

DIY Clocks



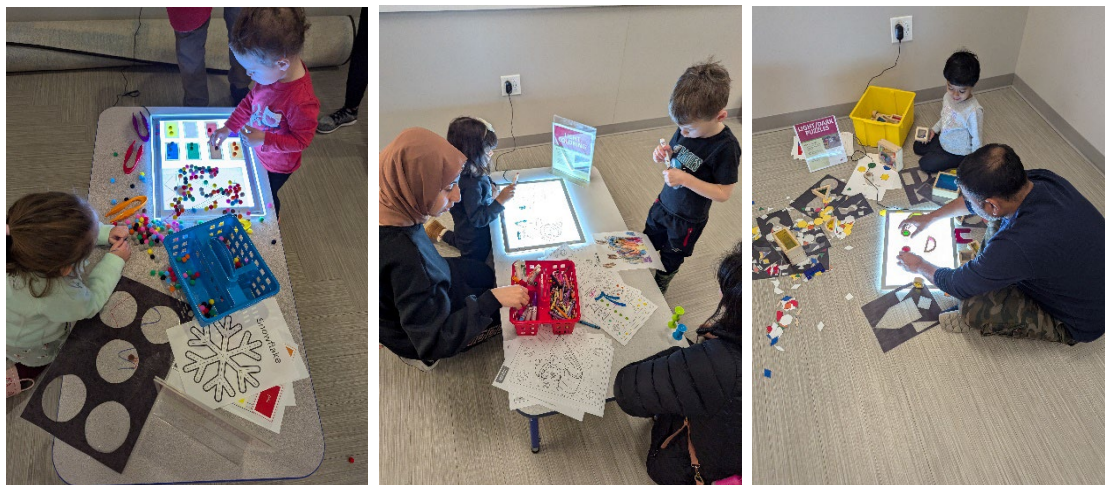
On December 8, Librarian April Overly hosted DIY Clocks at NWL for 20 tweens, teens and adults who were able to design clock faces, then assemble simple mechanisms to create their own timepieces. Attendees enjoyed worked independently or together in family or friend groups to draw and collage unique clock faces, some using patron-donated antique clock dials.

Exploring Sonic the Hedgehog



Library Associate Laela Tague-Behler presented Exploring Sonic the Hedgehog on December 8 at WPK. The program was a hit, with 19 excited attendees all eager to dive into the fast-paced world of Sonic. The kids were especially captivated by the interactive Toobz. Laughter and cheers filled the air as they competed to see who could zoom through the Toobz the fastest.

Light Table Exploration



On December 15 at WPK, 40 attendees gathered to explore the magic of the lightboard during a Light Table Exploration program. Lead Librarian Hilary Harlan helped patrons navigate five lightboard stations. Children and their families had fun exploring sensory, STEM, sorting and other fine-motor activities as well as a gross motor play area in the center of the room.

Winter Songs and Fun

On December 21, 63 patrons joined Library Associate Jennifer Simcic and filled OWL's meeting room with song, celebrating the winter season in our annual Winter Songs and Fun event. Babies, toddlers, preschoolers and a few early school-aged children gleefully rang bells, shook eggs and danced with scarves while their grown-ups sang along to well-known favorites... and learned some new ones! The dusting of snow on the ground outside completed the picture.

Community Engagement Highlights

On December 1, Librarian Liz Blankenship participated in the City of Worthington's annual Tree Illumination ceremony by reading the classic poem "The Night Before Christmas" on stage to a large crowd gathered for the festivities. Despite the chill in the air and the snow flurries, fun was had by all at the end of the reading when children and children at heart all shouted out the poem's famous last words, "Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"

Patron Highlights

A patron stopped by OWL's Accounts desk to excitedly share the following story: While on vacation, the patron accidentally left her library book on the plane and was devastated because it had a bookmark in it that her daughter had made when she was little. The airline was unable to locate the book, so she couldn't do much else at the time. During her library visit, she looked for the book on the shelf, on the off chance that someone had mailed it back. Not only had someone mailed it back, but her bookmark was right where she had left it! She was jumping up and down she was so happy! Plus, she got to finish reading the book right where she left off.

While a young patron was doing the scavenger hunt in OWL's Youth Services department, he asked staff for a hint about the Opossum and said, "I know why they call it a possum. Because it's imPOSSUMable to find!"

Patron Colleen Kochensparger left WPK the following 5-star Google Business review: "Incredible; intentionally inclusive; always adding new services and community outreach opportunities especially for schools and local kids; tons of different materials available including

bundled theme recommendations, kits for fun activities or home/car repair things, games, movies, ALL kinds of books; holds and inter-library loan system is incredible; staff is AMAZING. This is the perfect place to take kids even if they're not holding one of their many community events. This is the perfect place to work as a group or alone (you can "rent" study rooms or meeting rooms for free). This is the perfect place for pretty much anytime you even just need to kill time between things, even if you don't have something specific in mind you will always find something cool here."

Staff Highlights

Jason Robinson (he/him), part-time NWL circulation assistant since October 23, 2023, has been promoted to OWL part-time adult services library associate effective January 20, 2025. Jason is also a music teacher at Music & Arts in Columbus. His most recent work experience includes park technician for Columbus & Franklin County Metro Parks (2022-2023). Jason's library experience includes library services aide (1997-2001) and customer services specialist (2001-2011) at various branches for CML. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from the Ohio State University.

- 2024 Action Plan Final Report
- 2025 Action Plan

Finance Operations

- Finance Report

Personnel

Appointment	Position	Department	Location	Repl/ New	Date
Jason Robinson	library associate	adult services	OWL	R	01/20/25

A motion was made by Ms. Mulvaney and seconded by Ms. Dembowski to adopt RESOLUTION #01-04-25 to approve conference expense reimbursements for Jenn Eyer of \$164.82

Roll Call: Ms. Dembowski, aye; Ms. Grieser, aye; Ms. Herbers, aye; Ms. Mulvaney, aye; Ms. Poklar, aye; Ms. Saputra, aye; and Mr. Saverimuttu, aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Poklar and seconded by Ms. Grieser to adopt RESOLUTION #01-05-25 to create start-up change in the amount of \$480 (\$40 in each of the 12 coin boxes) for the copier and printer coin boxes at all three branches, effective 01/22/2025

Roll Call: Ms. Dembowski, aye; Ms. Grieser, aye; Ms. Herbers, aye; Ms. Mulvaney, aye; Ms. Poklar, aye; Ms. Saputra, aye; and Mr. Saverimuttu, aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Dembowski and seconded by Ms. Grieser to adopt RESOLUTION #01-06-25 to approve revisions to the Borrowers Card policy, effective 01/22/2025

Voice vote: 7 ayes; 0 nays. Motion passed.

Ms. Herbers moved the adjournment of the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Bank Balance as of December 31, 2024: \$23,064,064.82

This meeting was digitally recorded and is maintained on file by the Worthington Public Library.
