



**Special Work Session Meeting Agenda  
2 Park Drive South, Great Falls, MT  
Gibson Room, Civic Center  
June 03, 2025  
4:30 PM**

The agenda packet material is available on the City's website: <https://greatfallsmt.net/meetings>. The Public may view and listen to the meeting on government access channel City-190, cable channel 190; or online at <https://greatfallsmt.net/livestream>.

Public participation is welcome in the following ways:

- Attend in person.
- Provide public comments in writing by 12:00 PM the day of the meeting: Mail to City Clerk, PO Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403, or via email to: [commission@greatfallsmt.net](mailto:commission@greatfallsmt.net). Include the agenda item or agenda item number in the subject line, and include the name of the commenter and either an address or whether the commenter is a city resident. Written communication received by that time will be shared with the City Commission and appropriate City staff for consideration during the agenda item, and, will be so noted in the official record of the meeting.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

*(Public comment on agenda items or any matter that is within the jurisdiction of the City Commission. Please keep your remarks to a maximum of five (5) minutes. Speak into the microphone, and state your name and either your address or whether you are a city resident for the record.)*

## **WORK SESSION ITEMS**

1. Great Falls Library Board Candidate Interviews.  
4:35-5:00 Jessica Christ  
5:00-5:25 London Griffith  
5:25-5:50 Ray Bukoveckas  
5:50-6:15 Janet Denise Thomson

## **DISCUSSION POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

## **UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE**

City Commission Work Session - Tuesday June 17, 2025 5:30 p.m.

City Commission Meeting - Tuesday June 17, 2025 7:00 p.m.



BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS  
CITIZEN INTEREST FORM  
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)



Agenda #1.

Thank you for your interest. Citizen volunteers are regularly appointed to the various boards and commissions. This application subject to Montana Right to Know laws.

Board/Commission Applying For: <i>Library Board Trustee</i>		Date of Application: <i>May 7, 2025</i>	
Name: <i>Jessica Crist</i>			
Home Address: <i>401 4th Ave N Great Falls, MT 59401</i>		Email address: <i>crist.jessica@gmail.com</i>	
Home Phone: <i>406 4520821</i>	Work Phone: <i>NA</i>	Cell Phone: <i>406 868 7658</i>	
Occupation: <i>retired bishop</i>		Employer: <i>NA</i>	
Would your work schedule conflict with meeting dates? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If yes, please explain)			
Related experiences or background: <i>4 years service on Library Board 17 years administrative/management experience 15 years running adult education programs</i>			
Educational Background: <i>BA Yale M Div Harvard continuing education ever since</i>			
<b>IF NECESSARY, ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR YOUR ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING:</b>			
Previous and current service activities: <i>see attached</i>			
Previous and current public experience (elective or appointive): <i>see attached</i>			
Membership in other community organizations: <i>See attached</i>			

Have you ever worked for or are you currently working for the City of Great Falls? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, where and when?

Do you have any relatives working or serving in any official capacity for the City of Great Falls? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, who, which department, and relationship?

Have you ever served on a City or County board? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, what board and when did you serve?

Current member of Great Falls Public Library Board

Are you currently serving on a Board? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, which board?

GFPL Board of Trustees

Are you a Qualified Elector? Yes ☒ No ☐

(Any citizen of Cascade County 18 years of age or older who meets the registration and residence requirements provided by law is a qualified elector unless he is serving a sentence for a felony in a penal institution or is of unsound mind, as determined by a court.)

Please describe your interest in serving on this board/commission?

See attached

Please describe your experience and/or background which you believe qualifies you for service on this board/commission?

See attached

Additional comments:

See attached

I am out of state June 14-28

Signature

Jessie Aust

Date:

5/7/25

If you are not selected for the current opening, your application may be kept active for up to one year by contacting the City Manager's office. Should a board/commission vacancy occur within 30 days from the last City Commission appointment, a replacement member may be selected from citizen interest forms submitted from the last advertisement. For more information, contact the City Manager's office at 455-8450.

**Return this form to:**

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Hand Deliver: City Manager's Office  
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Email:  
kartis@greatfallsmt.net



## Additional Information for Jessica Crist, Applicant for GFPL Board of Trustees

### **Previous and current service activities:**

GFPL Board of Trustees  
 Friends of Montana PBS Board (vice chair)  
 Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary Board (chair)  
 Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery Task Force (ELCA) co-chair  
 Family Promise volunteer  
 FISH volunteer  
 Library Volunteer

### **Previous and current public experience:**

GFPL Board of Trustees  
 Volunteer work on campaigns  
 Citizen engagement with the legislature  
 Whittier PTA volunteer and president  
 Girl Scout leader

### **Membership in other community organizations:**

Bethel Lutheran Church  
 YWCA  
 History Museum  
 Russell Museum  
 PGSMOA

### **Interest in serving on this board:**

It takes a while to get up to speed with all the details about being an effective board member. I have spent 4 years learning about the library, how it functions, how it is part of the City, and how it is differentiated from the City. During my time on the board we ran a campaign for a mill levy, developed a strategic plan, dealt with funding shortfall, came out of COVID, engaged with the neighborhood to find solutions to the misuse of the Library Park, and much more. I have learned about the network of libraries across the state, about the role the GFPL plays with other agencies and institutions in our committee. I am interested in being appointed to another term because I think that all this learning I have done should not go to waste. I am ready to continue serving.

### **Experience and/or background which qualifies you for service on this board:**

**Board experience in general:** I have served on numerous boards and know how to make best use of board members' time. I know the difference between board responsibilities and staff responsibilities. I have experience managing conflict, and with finding ways to defuse it.

**Experience on the GFPL Board:** I have been part of the GFPL board through several transitions, and I am comfortable with finding ways to improve board experience.

Public speaking and engagement: I have experience in public speaking and meeting with public leaders and groups. This is helpful in telling the story of the library to public groups, and to advocate for the library where appropriate.

Additional Comments: I will be out of state June 14-28, but available by Zoom.



**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS  
CITIZEN INTEREST FORM  
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)**

**RECEIVED**


**MAY 20 2025**

**CITY MANAGER**

*Thank you for your interest. Citizen volunteers are regularly appointed to the various boards and commissions. This application subject to Montana Right to Know laws.*

Board/Commission Applying For:		Date of Application:	
Great Falls Public Library Board of Trustees			
Name:			
London Griffith			
Home Address:		Email address:	
1219 26th Ave. SW, Great Falls, MT 59404		london.griffith@gmail.com	
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Cell Phone:	
n/a	n/a	347-834-7420	
Occupation:		Employer:	
Estates Transfer Associate		D.A. Davidson	
Would your work schedule conflict with meeting dates? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (If yes, please explain)			
If meeting dates remain as scheduled, I will not have any issue with attending.			
Related experiences or background: Founder of non-profit theater company, M. Beth Productions, NY, NY Former employee/organizer of one of the largest non-profit community centers in NY, NY Former writer for online magazine covering theater productions and performance in NY, NY Avid reader, owner and user of a GFPL Card Blogger with a focus on reading and writing - <a href="http://www.iwearflipflopsinthesnow.substack.com">www.iwearflipflopsinthesnow.substack.com</a>			
Educational Background: C.M. Russell High School, 2005 University of Central Arkansas, 2005-2006 New York Conservatory for the Dramatic Arts, Graduated 2009 Borough of Manhattan Community College, Paralegal Course, Certificate Completion, 2020			
<b>IF NECESSARY, ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR YOUR ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING:</b>			
Previous and current service activities: Active member of the Church of the Incarnation Parish, serving as an LEM. Volunteer at Lehigh County Human Society in Allentown, PA (former)			
Previous and current public experience (elective or appointive): None to speak of, but I am eager to find a way to be more active and supportive within the community.			
Membership in other community organizations: Great Falls Theatre Company			



Have you ever worked for or are you currently working for the City of Great Falls? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, where and when?	
Do you have any relatives working or serving in any official capacity for the City of Great Falls? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, who, which department, and relationship?	
Have you ever served on a City or County board? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, what board and when did you serve?	
Are you currently serving on a Board? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, which board?	
Are you a Qualified Elector? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Any citizen of Cascade County 18 years of age or older who meets the registration and residence requirements provided by law is a qualified elector unless he is serving a sentence for a felony in a penal institution or is of unsound mind, as determined by a court.)	
Please describe your interest in serving on this board/commission? I have been a lifelong reader, and while many other passions and pursuits have filled my life, my love for reading has always stayed a pivotal part of who I am. When I meet new people, they quickly discover I am an avid reader, completing over 60 books a year on various genres and topics. My interest in serving on this board is my ardent belief that reading and its benefits to the community members should be protected. I am aware of the challenges the library might face, and I am ready to contribute my problem-solving skills to ensure that the library, as more than just books, continues to be a thriving resource for the community in various ways it currently serves. A library is a hub of information and support for the community. I look forward to the opportunity to keep this hub and touchstone of the community alive and thriving by continuing to grow and adapt to the ever-changing demands of Great Falls.	
Please describe your experience and/or background which you believe qualifies you for service on this board/commission? While I don't have any direct experience working in libraries or on previous boards, I have a vast array of experiences working to serve the community. I was previously employed by a YMWHA in New York City, where our location and mission were central in supporting the community with a gym, pool, daycare, theater, religious education, after-school care, senior support, and many others. I was an integral part of planning, organizing, and executing fundraiser events and other significant community events, where we hosted hundreds of attendees of all races, ages, incomes, and backgrounds. I was also an integral part of several non-profit theater companies where I led and organized several productions and coordinated with other New York City theater community leaders to ensure successful productions and events.	
Additional comments: While my experience directly in public service is limited, my passion for ease of access to information and other free services for the public is unmatched. Through community and cooperation, just about anything is possible. Libraries are one of the last places to exist and gather for free. In Montana, this is essential as they are indoors and provide a service by just having the doors open. But by keeping the doors open to all, the entire community can develop, learn, and grow in a brighter, more vibrant community.  I chose to return to Great Falls and hope to use my experience to contribute to the community and would welcome the chance to serve on the Library Board to share my passion for reading, learning and community.	
Signature 	Date: 20 May 2025

If you are not selected for the current opening, your application may be kept active for up to one year by contacting the City Manager's office. Should a board/commission vacancy occur within 30 days from the last City Commission appointment, a replacement member may be selected from citizen interest forms submitted from the last advertisement. For more information, contact the City Manager's office at 455-8450.

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MAY 1 2025

CITY MANAGER

Thank you for your interest. Citizen volunteers are regularly appointed to the various boards and commissions. This application subject to Montana Right to Know laws.

Board/Commission Applying For:		Date of Application:	
LIBRARY Board of Trustees		4/29/25	
Name:			
RAY BUKOVICKAS			
Home Address:		Email address:	
3400 FOX FARM ROAD GF		rbuck799@GMAIL.COM	
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Cell Phone:	
		406 505 0307	
Occupation:		Employer:	
Retired		None	
Would your work schedule conflict with meeting dates? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If yes, please explain)			
Related experiences or background:			
LIBRARY Board member / President, VALIER MT. LIBRARY Board member - AS VALIER Town Council Rep.			
Educational Background:			
BS - ACCOUNTING - COLLEGE OF GREAT FALLS 1996			
IF NECESSARY, ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR YOUR ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING:			
Previous and current service activities:			
MAYOR - TOWN OF VALIER MT - 2 YEARS, TOWN COUNCIL - VALIER, MT - 2 YEARS. TREASURER - FRONT RANGE CASA - 6 YEARS			
Previous and current public experience (elective or appointive):			
MAYOR TOWN COUNCIL VALIER MT. 2 YEARS EACH			
Membership in other community organizations:			
None			



Have you ever worked for or are you currently working for the City of Great Falls? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, where and when?

Do you have any relatives working or serving in any official capacity for the City of Great Falls? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, who, which department, and relationship?

Have you ever served on a City or County board? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, what board and when did you serve?

*MAYOR - VALIER MT 2016-2017, TOWN COUNCIL 2018-2020*  
Are you currently serving on a Board? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, which board?

Are you a Qualified Elector? Yes ☒ No ☐  
(Any citizen of Cascade County 18 years of age or older who meets the registration and residence requirements provided by law is a qualified elector unless he is serving a sentence for a felony in a penal institution or is of unsound mind, as determined by a court.)

Please describe your interest in serving on this board/commission?

*IMPROVE LIBRARY SERVICES  
UNDERSTAND AND HELP WITH LIBRARY SERVICES*

Please describe your experience and/or background which you believe qualifies you for service on this board/commission?

*VALIER BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AS MEMBER / PRESIDENT / AND MEMBER APPOINTED  
BY MAYOR - TOWN COUNCIL REP.*

Additional comments:

Signature

*Ray B. Kevorkian*

Date:

*4/29/25*

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**RECEIVED****MAY 20 2025****CITY MANAGER**

*Thank you for your interest. Citizen volunteers are regularly appointed to the various boards and commissions. This application subject to Montana Right to Know laws.*

Board/Commission Applying For: <b>GF City Library</b>		Date of Application: <b>May 16, 2025</b>	
Name: <b>Janet Denise Thomson</b>			
Home Address: <b>2724 Delmar Drive</b>		Email address: <b>jannyt2162@gmail.com</b>	
Home Phone: <b>406-453-6142</b>	Work Phone: <b>Retired</b>	Cell Phone: <b>406-788-2162</b>	
Occupation: <b>Retired Educator</b>		Employer:	
Would your work schedule conflict with meeting dates?    Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If yes, please explain)			
Related experiences or background: Reading Specialist, Great Falls Public Schools 1970-1979 Curriculum Specialist, GFPS, 1980-1996 Contracted Services (various districts, agencies) 1996-2008			
Educational Background: University of Montana 1969 B.Ed.; 1979 M.Ed. Ed.D. 1991			
<b>IF NECESSARY, ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR YOUR ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING:</b>			
Previous and current service activities: Various education organizations (Curriculum, principals, PDK, 1971-2008) Montana ASCD Director (Volunteer position, no compensation), 1996-2008 St. Thomas Board, (abt. 1988-1994, volunteer) 1980s Cascade County MS Board volunteer			
Previous and current public experience (elective or appointive): See above.			
Membership in other community organizations: Great Falls Ski & Board Club volunteer Great Falls Genealogy Society volunteer The History Museum (Great Falls) Montana Historical Society			



Have you ever worked for or are you currently working for the City of Great Falls? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, where and when?

Do you have any relatives working or serving in any official capacity for the City of Great Falls? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, who, which department, and relationship?

Have you ever served on a City or County board? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, what board and when did you serve?

Are you currently serving on a Board? Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, which board?

**Not on a city board. Is that what you mean?**

*I am V.P. of G.F.O.S.*

Are you a Qualified Elector? Yes ☒ No ☐

(Any citizen of Cascade County 18 years of age or older who meets the registration and residence requirements provided by law is a qualified elector unless he is serving a sentence for a felony in a penal institution or is of unsound mind, as determined by a court.)

Please describe your interest in serving on this board/commission?

I believe that public libraries are the "poor man's" access to immediate information to improve one's life. Children, beginning in infancy, need access to reading and listening materials. All people in our county deserve access, along with access to trained library specialists, seven days a week. I am a supporter of our Bookmobile, and am pleased with the services our library currently offers.

Please describe your experience and/or background which you believe qualifies you for service on this board/commission?

Once a reading specialist, always a reading specialist. The little library in my country school provided me with access to great literature and nonfiction, and most important--the idea that there were even bigger libraries and lots more info for me to explore. I am a curious person, always reading, and interested in many topics. I want this for my fellow citizens; I hope they have best access, too.

Additional comments:

I believe all people in our county can work together to provide the best services for all through our public library. I am ready to serve.

Signature

**Janet D. Thomson**

*Janet D. Thomson*

Date:

**May 16, 2025**

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