



TUALATIN LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 6, 2025

Present: Rachel Elliot, Dana Paulino, Ashley Payne, Nestor Sanchez, DeAnn Welker, Thea Wood

Absent: Paul Turnbach

Public: Laura Baker, Friends of Tualatin Library

Staff: Jerianne Thompson, Library Director
Aimee Meuchel, Teen Librarian

A. CALL TO ORDER

Dana Paulino called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Thea Wood moved to accept the April meeting minutes as written; Rachel Elliot seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Chair: None.

2. Staff: Jerianne Thompson announced an agenda change to move WCCLS Funding & Governance to the end of New Business. Thompson announced the Friends of Tualatin Library's spring sale on May 9 & 10 and the Summer Reading Carnival on May 31. Thompson provided updates about funding impacts to the State Library of Oregon from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and recent federal court rulings about the federal agency. Thompson presented an update about book censorship efforts in 2024. A recent report from the American Library Association noted that 72 percent of demanded book bans at school and public libraries were initiated by pressure groups, government entities, and elected officials. Thompson shared recent usage statistics and comment cards. Committee members discussed a request received by Thompson to designate one parking spot as time-limited, short-term parking.

3. Teen Library Committee: Nestor Sanchez said TLC is preparing for upcoming events including the Summer Reading Carnival and Marvel Trivia. Many TLC members will serve as mentors for summer teen volunteers this year.

4. **Public:** None.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

2. Community Room Policy: Thompson reviewed changes proposed to the policy, mostly related to access by nonprofit organizations. Ashley Payne moved to recommend approval of the proposed revisions; Nestor Sanchez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

E. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Library Service Areas: Teens: Aimee Meuchel reviewed the growth in teen programming since 2010, when the Teen Library Committee was formed. Meuchel provides leadership and mentoring to TLC, which assists with program delivery and development. In addition to hosting teen programs at the Library, Meuchel has monthly outreach visits to Hazelbrook Middle School and Tualatin High School, where she leads book clubs. Meuchel also works with the Library's Volunteer Program Manager to oversee our summer teen volunteer program, which will have 40 participants this year. Meuchel strives to make the Library a welcoming place for teens and to find ways to give teens a voice.

2. FY2025-26 Library Budget: As background to reviewing the Library's proposed budget for next fiscal year, Thompson presented an overview of current library funding in Washington County. In the current year, two-thirds of Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS)'s funding is distributed to member libraries and one-third pays for WCCLS operations, including shared digital collections. In budgeting for fiscal year 2021-22, Washington County announced a significant gap between projected revenues and expenditures; the County's proposed budget for FY2025-26 represents the fifth consecutive year of a funding gap. As Washington County has made cuts to the General Fund transfer to WCCLS, WCCLS has begun spending into their contingency funds. Prior to FY2023-24, member libraries received 3 percent annual funding increases from WCCLS; since then, libraries have received a 1 or 2 percent annual increase, which does not keep pace with rising costs.

The Library's proposed FY2025-26 budget reflects a 1 percent increase from WCCLS, 3.7 percent increase from Clackamas County, and increased donations from the Tualatin Library Foundation. The Library has switched from a fee-for-use to a donation model for Makerspace revenues. Personnel costs are increasing about 7 percent, and materials and services are increasing about 5 percent.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. WCCLS Funding & Governance Evaluation: Thompson reviewed the timeline for Phase II of this project, focused on service boundaries and the funding allocation methodology. She also reviewed the timeline for decisions about the local option levy planned for library services on the November 2025 ballot. The Washington County Board of Commissioners is considering

a 15 cent increase to replace the current rate of 22 cents per \$1000 of assessed value. The replacement levy would be to maintain current service levels under the newly proposed base services level model. Under this model, County funding would pay for only 45 open hours per week at each library, with local partners potentially funding additional open hours, and the County would control the majority of new collection purchases for libraries.

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Library Service Areas
2. Child Safety Policy
3. Funding Sources (Finance Department)

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. **Members:** None.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

by Jerianne Thompson, Recording Secretary