

# **CARSON CITY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (LBOT)**

## **Minutes of the**

**September 14, 2023 Regular Meeting**

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Library Board of Trustees was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 14, 2023 in the Carson City Community Center Bonanza Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Julie Knight  
Vice Chair Jonathon Olivas  
Trustee Elizabeth Markle  
Trustee Sarena Nichols

**STAFF:** Joy Holt, Library Director  
Mihaela Neagos, Deputy District Attorney  
Hope Mills, Chief Deputy Clerk  
Minutes by: Briana Munoz, Public Meetings Clerk

**NOTE:** A recording of these proceedings, the Library Board's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the Clerk during the meeting are part of the public record. These materials are available for review, in the Public Meetings Division of the Carson City Clerk's Office, during regular business hours. For minutes and audio recordings of this Board's meetings, please visit [www.carson.org/minutes](http://www.carson.org/minutes).

### **I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL**

(00:01) – Chairperson Knight called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Trustee Beth Lucas was absent from this meeting.

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

(00:32) – Chairperson Knight entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

### **III. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

#### **III.a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (AUGUST 10, 2023).**

(01:03) – Chairperson Knight introduced the item and entertained changes, comments, and a motion.

**(01:20) – MOTION:** Vice Chairperson Olivas moved to approve the August 10, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Trustee Markle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0-1 with Chairperson Knight abstaining, as she was not present during the August 10, 2023 meeting.

### **IV. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION - LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEE BUSINESS**

#### **IV.a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOOK TITLES FOR A PROPOSED MURAL IMAGE ON THE LIBRARY BUILDING AS PART OF THE “MURALS AND MUSIC” PROJECT, AND DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING THE BOOK TITLE SELECTION PROCESS.**

(01:45) – Chairperson Knight introduced the item. Ms. Holt presented an update on the “Music and Murals” project.

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(03:01) – Ms. Holt said the project was approved by the Public Art Panel and would be presented to the Board of Supervisors on Thursday, September 21 for final approval. Ms. Holt added that the mural would be located on the short wall facing Roop Street on the East side of the Library since the area is protected by an overhang which could help mitigate potential damage from exposure to outdoor elements.

(06:10) – Ms. Holt suggested that the mural display book genres instead of book titles due to concerns over potentially controversial book titles.

(10:38) – Trustee Markle stated that displaying genres instead of book titles was “wimping out.” Trustee Nichols agreed with Trustee Markle, referring to the decision as “a cop out.”

(12:24) – Chairperson Knight commented that selecting controversial book titles could detract from the Library’s Strategic Plan and favored displaying genres that patrons are interested in.

(13:55) – Ms. Holt said she didn’t want the mural to interfere with the Library’s positive trajectory.

(14:23) – Chairperson Knight stated that displaying genres would be a better long-term decision since book genres don’t change.

(18:05) – Trustee Nichols said she believed being afraid to “stir anything up” could harm the library. Chairperson Knight commented that displaying book genres would be a promotional opportunity rather than “kowtowing” to show patrons what genres can be found at the library.

(18:54) – Trustee Markle stated that art is “supposed to make people think.” She added that she believes there are books that are representative of the community.

(24:47) – Ms. Holt said she was concerned with the safety of Library staff because libraries in surrounding areas have dealt with discomfoting situations.

(27:20) – Based on Library staff recommendations, Ms. Holt suggested that the mural display Nevada history, romance, westerns, science fiction, mystery, cooking, and “Español.”

(30:38) – Chairperson Knight suggested adding Children’s literature to the list of displayed book genres.

(33:35) – Trustee Nichols said mystery should be removed from the list because it’s obvious that the Library carries the genre. She also suggested removing romance.

(35:19) – Vice Chair Olivas commented that “Español” isn’t an actual genre, but a language. Ms. Holt asked for suggestions to show that the Library has a large selection of books in Spanish.

(35:43) – Chairperson Knight suggested displaying the book genres in both English and Spanish. Vice Chair Olivas suggested only having three book genres in English and Spanish, instead of all of them.

(41:04) – Ms. Holt confirmed that the mural would display eight genres including Nevada history, westerns, science fiction, cooking/gardening, biographies, and poetry. Additionally, children’s books and technology displayed in both English and Spanish.

(42:22) – Trustee Nichols suggested that all eight of the genres should be displayed in both English and Spanish. Ms. Holt said she would speak to the artist to determine what fits best.

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**(46:33) – MOTION:** Trustee Nichols moved to approve the following genres for the Library mural: Nevada history, displayed in both English and Spanish, westerns, science fiction, cooking/gardening, biographies, poetry, children’s Books, displayed in English and Spanish, and technology, displayed in English and Spanish, “as long as the artist can fit all of these on, if not the Library Director can choose from the list.” Vice Chair Olivas seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0-1 with Trustee Markle abstaining.

**V. INFORMATION ONLY - LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPRESENTATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**V.a. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY - ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS OF LIBRARY DIRECTOR CONSISTING OF REPORTS CONCERNING GENERAL FUND, GIFT FUND, GRANTS, STAFFING UPDATES, PROGRAMMING AND OUTREACH EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2023, AND UPDATES ON CARSON CITY LIBRARY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORTS.**

(48:09) – Chairperson Knight introduced the item. Ms. Holt reported on staffing updates, programming and outreach events, all of which are incorporated into the record.

(58:55) – Ms. Holt announced that Library Board of Trustees meetings will now be held in the Bob Crowell Community Center so that they can be live-streamed, and video recorded, at the request of the Board of Supervisors.

**VI. INFORMATION ONLY - BOARD MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS & REQUEST FOR INFORMATION.**

(1:01:10) – Chairperson Knight introduced the item and entertained Trustee announcements and requests for information. Trustee Markle announced that Browser’s Corner was having a half-priced sale.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

(1:07:33) – Chairperson Knight entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

**VIII. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – ADJOURNMENT**

**(1:07:41) –Chairperson Knight adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.**

The Minutes of the September 14, 2023, Carson City Library Board of Trustees meeting are so approved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.