

# Minutes

## Warrenton Community Library Board Special Meeting

April 6, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

Warrenton City Commission Chambers  
225 South Main Ave., Warrenton, OR 97146

1. Call to order: Kelsey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Roll call: Kelsey Balensifer, Joy Wheatley-Decius, Karyn Grass, Amanda Donovan, Eileen Purcell, Library Director Kelly Knudsen and City Manager Linda Engbretson.  
Unable to attend: Natalie Duggan & Dawn DeLacey.
3. Recognition of guests: Carol Snell from the Friends of the Warrenton Community Library
4. Consent calendar:
  - We met to discuss goals and visioning and the upcoming November bond levy. City Manager Linda Engbretson attended to guide us through the process of launching the levy, history of WCL funding, and other aspects of volunteer participation as members of city advisory boards.
    - Advisory boards add capacity to city staff, perform legwork and research to contribute to the city's understanding of local needs and requests for service, as well as campaign within the community.
    - Linda gave an overview of the transition to the current building from the Hammond site, and the levy that passed 5 years ago and currently funds staff and programming at the library.
    - The current building is leased from the Warrenton School District, current lease ending in May 2023. There are urban renewal grant dollars (ending 2027-28) to address blight. Purchasing buildings is allowable. Is the current building worth purchasing?
    - Funding from the current operating level ends July 1, 2023. A levy to pass five more years of funding is on the ballot in Fall 2022. There is also a May 2023 vote scheduled. If the levy passes in November, it assures a smooth transition to new funding beginning July 2023. If the levy does not pass on the November ballot, there is an option to put forward the request next year on the May ballot.
    - There are three options for the levy:
      - Keep the same tax rate at \$0.33 per thousand
      - Increase 5 cents to \$0.38 per thousand
      - Increase 10 cents to \$0.43 per thousand

- Our Board will present a recommendation to the City Commissioners who will choose what course to take to submit to the county office by August 19, 2022. City staff will write the ballot measure.
- We discussed the implications of each levy option. We noted that library hours have been somewhat curtailed to allow staff to catch up on administrative tasks. Current programming is stretching staff capacity. It seems if there is to be increased programming in the future, an increase in the levy will be needed. We will vote in the June regular meeting on a recommendation to present to the City Commission.
- We discussed how the WLCB can support the passage of the levy through community outreach and polling. The library has made a successful transition from the old Hammond site to a prominent downtown location with varied and popular programs. Presenting a clear message to the voters will be important to the success of the levy.
- The WCLB was beginning a visioning process for the library, but we decided to table larger goal-setting work until after the November levy.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Meeting Minutes were taken and recorded by Eileen Purcell, Board Secretary.