

**Minutes from a Regular Meeting of the  
HIGHLAND CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members**

Jessica Anderson, Secretary  
Amy Brinton, Chair  
Ron Campbell  
Rachel Farnsworth  
Lynn Lonsdale  
Kevin Tams, Vice-Chair  
Wesley Warren

**Other**

Donna Cardon, Library Director and  
Board Executive Officer  
Angela Johnson, Cedar Hills  
resident

**Absent Board Members**

**None**

The Board dealt with some technical difficulties before being able to start the meeting. A quorum of the Board being present, Chair Amy Brinton welcomed those in attendance and began the Library Board meeting as a regular meeting at 7:19 p.m. The meeting agenda was posted on the Utah State Public Meeting Website at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

**AGENDA**

**4. Action/Policy Items**

a. *Collection Development Policy Adjustments*

The Board discussed whether the collection development policy should be adjusted to clarify who can submit a reconsideration request for library materials. As written, the policy allows "any library patron who is a resident of Highland" to submit the request. The board decided to adopt the suggested modifications, with the removal "resident of Highland or any," which would allow any library patron to submit a reconsideration request.

Kevin Tams moved to adopt the Collection Development Policy as amended. Rachel Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was recorded as follows:

Yes	Jessica Anderson
Yes	Amy Brinton

Yes	Ron Campbell
Yes	Rachel Farnsworth
Yes	Lynn Lonsdale
Yes	Kevin Tams
Yes	Wesley Warren

The motion passed.

## **1. Public Comment**

Angela Johnson, a Cedar Hills resident, appeared via Zoom and made a public comment. She requested that the Board reconsider the book *My Guncle and Me*, by Jonathan Merritt. She noted that the book alludes to a gay uncle, questioned why the book needs to be in the library, and requested that it be removed from the Library.

## **2. Consent**

### *a. Approve 2024.11.21 Minutes*

Kevin Tams moved to approve the November minutes. Ron Campbell seconded the motion. The vote was recorded as follows:

Yes	Jessica Anderson
Yes	Amy Brinton
Yes	Ron Campbell
Yes	Rachel Farnsworth
Yes	Lynn Lonsdale
Yes	Kevin Tams
Yes	Wesley Warren

The motion passed.

## **3. Reports**

### *a. Director's Report*

Donna Cardon gave her report. She noted that December is a relatively quiet month in the Library, with passive programs and the Mayor's Christmas Story Time. Winter Reading kicked off on January 4<sup>th</sup>, with a party featuring a local storyteller, and will continue through March 1<sup>st</sup>. The theme features the new library mascot, the Highland

cow, who was named Clover by popular vote. Donna highlighted some upcoming programs and the Library's first monthly newsletter.

Donna noted that April 7, 2025 is the target launch date for the Timpanogos Library Consortium. There is a draft of the inter-local agreement in circulation. American Fork is donating a vehicle for the TLC to use. Policies will need to be modified.

The budget cycle has begun. Donna made a presentation to the City about the potential funding issues the library will face. It is unclear whether the Council will support asking for a tax increase this year. The fund study is in progress and will play a big role in determining when to seek a tax increase. Donna explained the fund study process and progress. The Board discussed the funding and space needs of the Library and the necessity of raising taxes and the timing.

Donna also shouted out the Young Writer's Group as the monthly impact story and highlighted a few statistics.

#### **4. Action/Policy Items**

##### *b. Book Reconsideration*

The Board considered the request to reconsider a picture book in the Library's collection: *My Guncle and Me*, by Jonathan Merritt. The Board read into the record pertinent parts of the Collection Development Policy. The Board acknowledged the concerns of the patron who submitted the request and noted its appreciation for patrons who are actively involved with the Library. The Board also noted that every board member had read and reviewed the book prior to the meeting. The Board noted the purpose of the Library to provide information without bias to allow people to make decisions for themselves and for their families.

Donna provided some highlights from her report on the book and expressed her opinion that it falls squarely within the Library's collection development policy. She noted that the library does not have many other picture books about children with relatives in the LGBTQ community.

Angela Johnson left the meeting.

The Board noted that the Library is a resource to the entire community and each family can govern themselves. Libraries are a key part of providing access to

information. The Board also noted that there is a mechanism for parents to control whether a child can check out a book without parental involvement. The Board reviewed the available possible actions for dealing with the reconsideration request. Prior to voting, the Board noted that it took this request very seriously, came prepared for this meeting, considered the request from all sides, and tried to set aside their individual biases.

Kevin Tams moved that the Library retain the book titled *My Guncle and Me* in the children's picture book collection. Lynn Lonsdale seconded the motion. The vote was recorded as follows:

Yes	Jessica Anderson
Yes	Amy Brinton
Yes	Ron Campbell
Yes	Rachel Farnsworth
Yes	Lynn Lonsdale
Yes	Kevin Tams
Yes	Wesley Warren

The motion passed.

c. *Strategic Plan Changes*

Donna highlighted two minor changes to the strategic plan suggested by the City Council, who has already approved the amended plan. The changes resolved an inconsistency on program goals and added an item in the Materials section to adjust spending on digital materials as needed to keep up with demand.

Lynn Lonsdale moved to approve the changes to the 2024 Long-Range Strategic Plan. Kevin Tams seconded the motion. The vote was recorded as follows:

Yes	Jessica Anderson
Yes	Amy Brinton
Yes	Ron Campbell
Yes	Rachel Farnsworth
Yes	Lynn Lonsdale
Yes	Kevin Tams
Yes	Wesley Warren

The motion passed.

## **5. Discussion Items**

### *a. Donated Transgender Books*

The Board did not discuss this item.

### *b. Update on Fund Study*

The Board discussed the fund study earlier in the meeting during the Director's report.

### *c. First draft of FY 2026 budget*

Donna will send out a copy of the draft budget to the Board.

### *d. Annual Training*

The Board determined to meet the annual training requirement via online classes. Each Board member is encouraged to do at least one hour of training. Donna recommended the training on homelessness in particular.

## **6. Future Agenda Items**

- Open Meetings Training
- Changes in policy due to the Timpanogos Library Consortium

The Board's next regular meeting will be held on February 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

## **7. Adjournment**

Jessica Anderson moved to adjourn the Library Board meeting. Kevin Tams seconded the motion. The vote was recorded as follows:

Yes	Jessica Anderson
Yes	Amy Brinton
Yes	Ron Campbell
Yes	Rachel Farnsworth
Yes	Lynn Lonsdale

Yes	Kevin Tams
Yes	Wesley Warren

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

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I, Jessica Anderson, Highland City Library Board Secretary, hereby certify that the foregoing minutes represent a true, accurate, and complete record of the meeting held on January 23, 2025. This document constitutes the official minutes for the Highland City Library Board Meeting.