A special meeting of the A. K. Smiley Public Library Board of Trustees was held at the Assembly Room on 125 West Vine Street on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:30am.

Present: Bill Hatfield, President; Marty Davis, Trustee; Rosa Gomez, Trustee; and Bill Hardy, Trustee

Also Present: Dennis Bell, general public; Martín Gomez, Strategic Plan Consultant; Nathan Gonzales, Archivist / Curator; Jenesie Hardyman, Management Analyst; Les Kong, FOL; Don McCue, Library Director; Rebecca McCurdy, FOL President; Kristina Naftzger, Youth Services Librarian; Jim Rice, FOL; Diane Shimota, Adult Literacy Coordinator; and Bob Toister, FOL Vice President

Bill Hatfield called the meeting to order at 10:30am.

Public Comment

Bill Hatfield opened the meeting for public comment. There being no public comment, Bill continued the meeting.

Old Business

Discussion and possible action regarding Library’s Strategic Plan.

- Martín Gomez of mjgomez associates gave a presentation on the compiled Strategic Plan, emphasizing the various methods used to gain valuable information from the community through surveys, stakeholder interviews, focus groups and comparing the operations and statistics of similar libraries.

- Questions asked / comments made during the presentation included:
  - Marty Davis asked how many libraries in general have a foundation for fundraising purposes. Mr. Gomez replied smaller libraries (closer to our size) were typically under 50% and of larger libraries 75% had a foundation.
  - A attendee was concerned about the possibility of closing the FOL bookstore. Mr. Gomez mentioned this wasn’t currently being suggested as part of the plan, but did offer possible options including dispersed sales, online sales or utilizing a retail storefront outside of the library campus.
  - Marty Davis asked as part of the Annual Policy Review, what should be included? Mr. Gomez suggested looking at policies related to patron library use, rental use, library cards, fines & fees and interlibrary partnerships.
  - An attendee seconded the need to increase our collection and provide services to the Northside. It was also mentioned that Smiley Library needs to find ways to stay competitive with other local libraries to attract new demographic populations. The Library of Things was also mentioned.
  - In order to attract a younger crowd, Marty Davis suggested assembling a committee to evaluate and better understand possible teen services to be offered or that need to be addressed. Mr. Gomez mentioned possible volunteer options for those under 18, with the caveat that Smiley Library be very clear about our expectations.
  - Bill Hatfield commented that money and personnel are need to make the suggestions from the Strategic Plan happen. What to tackle needs to be prioritized and this plan should be used as a justification for personnel needs. The Board will need to meet to finalize the plan and work on a timeline.
  - Marty Davis wanted to clarify that the Strategic Plan needs to include the Lincoln Memorial Shrine as part of the steps to finalize the shrine’s accreditation.
  - Rosa Gomez thought the Strategic Plan was a good guide to work on priorities and a strategy for the future.

- Mr. Gomez stated Smiley Library should look at what can be easily implemented and figure out how to prioritize the larger issues. Working with staff on what can be addressed now vs. later is
important. There may be some things that need to be stopped for other options / needs to begin.
  o  Rosa Gomez mentioned that seniors need to be included as an underserved population.

**Adjournment**
There being no further business, Bill Hatfield adjourned the meeting at 12:04pm.

The next regular meeting of the A.K. Smiley Public Library Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

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William Hardy, Secretary