

## League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Neill Public Library Date: 2/9/22  
Observer Reporting : Francy Pavlas Bose Length of Meeting: approx. 1 ½ hours  
Members Present: Jan Hill; Mary Jane Neill; Dan LeBeau; Donna Potts;  
Absent: Brandon Wolking ; and Ann Parks-City Council Rep.  
Others Present (i.e., media, public): Joanna Bailey –Director; Lori Lewis—Assistant ; four people were  
observing from their phones, without names , just phone numbers

### **Meeting Content:**

Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm . January Minutes; Jan/Feb Vouchers and Salary Warrants were all approved. Joanna Bailey read two emails into the public record which were both regarding the **Jefferson portrait**. No City Council report, as Ann Parks was not present. It was reported that the Friends of the Library have been critical to the library, having done amazing things.

2021 Annual Report: Spent 83% of the **budget** and returned approx. \$380,000 to the city which was mostly salaried and benefits.

Regular Business: **Jefferson Painting update** and discussion: Joanna Bailey gave a short update on the collection policy. Started in 1979 with collection of art was seeking best of area artist and only addresses acquisition. INTENTION : was to honor and celebrate local artist; 50% donated by artist, no city money for works. Library acts as museum of local art with only stipulation that art could not be sold, but could be relocated to another location in the “city”. It was decided that there was a missing piece in the policy. Since it is up to the board to adjust the policy, it was decided that the Director will follow the current policy, while the board addresses how to update the policy. Points for the board to review included: Donna Potts wants more description/an educational component as the board revises the policy.

First Motion: Library Director will follow current policy.

Second motion: Board will revise the art policy looking at the city and other sources to develop a new Art Policy over time.

New Business: No Director’s report this month. Next Meeting will be March 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Board Vacancy committee** will include Dan LeBeau; Jan Hill and Mary Jane Neill. Currently have three candidates.

Joanna Baily gave the **2021 Annual Report:** The library was closed on March 16, as not considered essential service. On March 28 there were only two staff people working remotely. By early June, with much adjustment, went to Curb Side Service and the service continued to grow from there. The Pandemic created fundamental change in many activities. A positive sign, that even being closed, the library was able to add 395 new patrons and much positive feedback and Thank Yous from the Pullman community. Many programs of self-directed learning: such as “Grab and Go” were very much appreciated. Friends of the Library recognized that local businesses were hurting and added gift cards in the “Grab and Go Bags”. A magical moment: 90% of library frozen; Friends of Library raised \$90,000 for the library. Families borrowed 2000 movies; lots of Non-fiction; Cookbooks were a hot item, as lots of cooking being tried. Library provided Relief for the community.

Board : Thanked the Library for an amazing job. Making the library work.