

Festus Public Library Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2025

Members Present: Mark Peckham, Director Elizabeth Steffen, Eric Baldonado, Vicki Greminger, Chris Nelson, Carleigh Williams, Kate Tedford

Members Absent: Steve Stoll, Erica Eisenhauer,

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Festus Public Library Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Mark Peckham. It was held in the genealogy room of the Festus Public Library.

Consent Agenda: Eric Baldonado moved to approve all of the items on the Consent Agenda which included: Minutes of the August 12, 2025 meeting; Approval of Bills, and Librarian's Statistical Report, and The Financial Report. Kate Tedford seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Public Comments: There were no visitors.

Librarian's Report, September 4, 2025:

1. The library started charging for passport photos during the month of August. We are charging \$15/picture. It is going well. Staff like having control over the photos and customers seem to appreciate being able to do everything in one place. We have taken in over \$1000 in photos for the month. I think we are a little surprised about how well it has gone.
2. The State Dept. has updated the DS-11, which is the application for a new passport with some big changes. The first page now asks for USCIS Registration A-Number, which is their "Alien" number and refers to legal and illegal immigrants. It also removed the marker for those who have changed their gender since their last passport.
3. I had to call ambulance on Tuesday, August 12th. A patron tripped over one of the desk bikes in the area by the fireplace. The patron thought they heard something pop in their knee. The ambulance came and paramedics checked the patron over. The knee was scraped, so the paramedics put on a band-aid. Other than the scraped knee, the patron was okay and didn't need the ambulance. We have been trying to keep the bikes off to the side and out of the way since.
4. A patron called to tell me about an incident involving the food box and an unhoused person. When the patron arrive for storytime, their granddaughter pointed out something that looked like a weapon. It was still there when they left, so the patron called police. While on the phone with the dispatcher, they witnessed a person pick up the item and put it in a saltine box and put the box back in the food box. The police came and took the item away.
5. A patron has let us know that they have left money for the library in their will. They did not say how much, but we are very grateful that they thought of us.
6. We will be holding a Teen-Adult craft on Monday, September 22nd called "Back to School Bling-A-Book". Participants can bring one of their books and use tiny gems to make the cover sparkle. Staff have been doing their own books for inspiration and to join in on the fun. The program is full and we do have waitlist.
7. The city is once again treating employees to lunch at the Texas Roadhouse on September 24th. City buildings will be closed from 10:45-1:15 so everyone can have a two hour lunch. Employees can order

whatever they want from the menu and the city will cover it. Even if staff aren't scheduled to work that day, they can still come to lunch.

8. The mayor closed city buildings at 2:30 on Friday, August 29th so employees could get a head start on the Labor Day holiday. Employees will be paid for the time since it is the city that closed us. The mayor has done this for Good Friday, Memorial Day, and the 4th of July. We appreciate it very much.

9. The library will be hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, September 30th.

10. I will be taking a vacation day on Monday, September 22nd.

Friends of the Library Report:

Chris Nelson reported that they are busy with the Twin City Days Book Sale. They have a record number of books this year and the first day of the sale is going very well.

Unfinished Business:

Library Strategic Plan – pushed to next month

New Business:

Meeting Room Request: Veritext, requested use of a room a September 19th for a disposition. The motion was made by Carleigh Williams to approve, with a second by Eric Baldonado. The motion passed unanimously.

Request to Destroy Passport Records: Eric Baldonado made a motion to destroy passport transmittals older than 2 years. Vicki Greminger seconded and the motion carried.

Adjourn: Vicki Greminger made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Kate Tedford and the motion carried. Mark Peckham declared the meeting adjourned at 6:30

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Nelson
standing in for Stephen Stoll