



Observer Corps Report

Observer: Joni Hirschhaut

Meeting Observed: Library Advisory Board

Meeting Date: 7/16/2026

Agenda

Video Recording

Three Main Observations:

1. Many of the members expressed gratitude that members of the public attended.

All members in attendance expressed similar goals for the future of the library system. All present gave a short bio. Most have a history of involvement in multiple library boards in the past and presently.

2. Mr. Ragsdale gave a history of the board and his purpose in creating it during his administration. He encouraged board members to communicate regularly with the incoming mayor regarding new ideas/events. He also stressed that new programming has been and can be initiated without government funding.

3. ItY was mentioned that the Knox County Library system compares positively with those of much larger cities across the country. There was discussion about several new programs at various branches (Library for All which does programming for developmentally disabled individuals; Signing for Stories which provides signing while books are read aloud).

Feature Evaluated	Yes	No	Comments
Meeting started on time?	Y		
All members		N	A. Goethert was not present and there was no explanation. Also there was no representative from D6.
Members attentive?	Y		
Did members come prepared to discuss agenda items?	Y		

Agenda posted 72 hours prior to meeting?	Y		
Agenda items clearly described what was to be discussed?	Y		
Adequate opportunity given for public input?	Y		Public was asked for input and this was appreciated.
Was there an appearance that some action items were discussed in closed rather than open session?		N	
Was background information available to the public?		N	
Facilities adequate (room size, lighting, ventilation, speakers, audible, ADA accessible?)	Y		

Were there any issues on the agenda relevant to LWV positions or programs? View the League's [National](#), [State](#), and [LWVKKC](#) policy positions.

LWVKKC Policy Positions: *Childcare, Land Use, Health, Homeless/Mentally Ill Persons, Urban Forestry, Use of School Facilities by Communities, Teacher Recruitment & Retention*

League Position	Issue

Do you recommend League action on any of these issues?

Other notes/concerns?

New officers will be elected at the next meeting in October.