



**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES WEDNESDAY, November 16, 2022
4:00 P.M.**

The Board met in regular session in a hybrid format via Zoom webinar and in person.

Chair Ghilieri called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

1) ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Frank Perez, Amy Ghilieri, Lea Grace, Ann Medaille

Board Members Absent: None

County Staff Present: Library Director Jeff Scott, Assistant District Attorney Herbert Kaplan, Assistant County Manager David Solaro

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonnie Edwards: Golden Valley resident she sent an email to the board on October 24th and had no response. She stated how she was 100% against drag queen story time. Feels it is not age child appropriate and is more for adults. Asked the question if the drag queens were subject to background checks stated that School District has anyone working with kid's background. Wanted to have a grandma story time where they dress up as old-fashioned grandmas. Would like an answer back to her background check question.

Kathy Thompson: Is a public middle school teacher and had to go through extensive training on sexual harassment. She is also a mandated reporter for the community that she lives in. We live in a state and federally she is concerned about some of the activities or actions that are possibly being portrayed at the drag queen story hours. She is concerned that the library may have some liability and if there may be items that will be considered sexual harassment particularly a minor telling sexual jokes or stories. Making lewd gestures or giving gifts of sexual nature. She is concerned

the library is opening themselves up to a lawsuit of some kind.

Shannon Coley: She spoke on equal access to Washoe County Library she is part of a group of moms that called in May and asked if each library in town could speak on the Fourth of July story time, and they said no only Librarians. Feels the library lied to them obviously they thought that after drag queen story time would bring on issues. She is also a wounded Veteran that wanted to speak for Veterans Day, and she was told only Librarians would get to speak at story time, which she felt was another lie and all she wants is equal treatment. She feels there is a ton of preferential treatment in the 2020 strategic plan in stated. Feels we are committed to servicing and celebrating everyone in the community. She would just like to see equality.

Adrian Lowry: Sparks resident he is grateful that the library is proving space for diversity and opportunities for children to learn about cultural differences. As a child there were no such opportunities and feels it would have been a major benefit and for the community. From these kinds of spaces, the opportunity to meet and know people from other cultures from LGQBT community from these kinds of spaces. He has attended the event events and feels they are not obscene or harming to children. He stated that nobody is being forced to attend these events and the parents that don't want their children to be exposed to LGBTQ people can prevent the children from these public events. Feels that excluding these people from public spaces like the library is like not promoting multiculturalism to promote learning and shutting out people into a specific group. Was in support and promotes the drag queen story time.

Ernest Clark: Reno resident who is a grandfather and has his grandchildren that live in the area as well. He supports reading programs, books, and tablets. Feels that they are not looking at the science that young people are immature, and they are going to be coming to these classes by people who are backwards and there no login strike coins with a man that can dress up like a woman and bring it around whatever and whenever. There is no law against that. However, our children are much more vulnerable. Feels the program will support gender dysphoria and will cause confusion to lead to increased suicides among young people. Feels the event is child abuse and feels that drag queen story time is evil. The public library is not a place to be confusing children about their genders asked to please cancel any further drag queen events.

Reva Crump: Kitty Demure is a drag queen and spoke on his title of the drag queen is not for children. Asked the parents what the hell has a drag queen have done to make them have so much disrespect? Stated that they are more than just a person with makeup and doing sexual things on the stage. Stated that they are not influencing the children to be strippers or porn stars it made no sense at all. Drag queen performing in a nightclub for adults is a ton of filth that goes on a lot of

sexual stuff that goes on backstage like nudity, sex, and drugs. Does not feel this is an avenue that a child needs to explore. Feels that a child can be raised to be a regular everyday child without including them in gay sexual things.

Cassidy Pocock: Wanted to also ask about background checks. Brought up Christopher Daniels who also is known as Miss Ginger Divine and has spoken at screen queen story hour in Walker County's public library in the past. Prior to his drag career he was in university work for an organization called sex out loud a campus organization that teaches students all about the world of kink including role play and kinky toys. Daniels also managed a blog titled "Confessions of a drag queen" which has been removed from the internet. There are still things detailing things and experiences as a performer in Reno where in one post he stated that he almost got into a fight with a 10-year-old at the roller rink. Stated why is this the kind of person being invited to the libraries to read stories to children.

Jessie Ebbe: is in support of drag queen story time event. Stated what difference is a drag queen to a superhero with a costume and makeup. Recommended the people that are opposed to the event attend one and see that it is just a person in a costume reading a book about compassion and kindness and loving yourself. Feels there is a need for greater literacy.

Sharon Stoneman: Washoe County resident since 1959 she is appalled at the drag queen story hour in the public libraries. Wanted to know what the purpose between these guys is coming in and reading to our children it is just senseless to her. There young minds are pure in heart they are innocent, and you are putting crap on them. Feels the event is nefarious and has an ultimatum of creating confusion in the kinds of minds. Parents are the ones that should be guiding the kids the kids should look up to parents who are their heroes not a drag queen.

Wayne Case: Veteran that has been all over the world and seen all kinds of different quotes and all kinds of different people and a transvestite or a drag queen chose a lifestyle that includes having children they made that choice what is their motive for coming back and saying I want to be in front of the children. Feels the motive is grooming a young venerable child. The environment is vulnerable, and he feels that is the reason we have seen doubling transgender population.

Janet Butcher: Stated there are an estimated 500,000 predators active each day children between the ages of 12 and 15 are especially susceptible to be groomed or manipulated by adults according to FBI records. Victims of sexual exploitation are between the ages of 12 to 15. Feels that parents should not allow children to be hugged by persons they are not familiar with. Feels these people also groom the parents to gain access to the child and groom the child. These things happen online in our churches and in our youth organizations. With families and friends and now we are allowing it to be brought into our public taxpayers who fund the libraries.

This sort of event is making children have serious long term mental health such as anxiety and depression which leads to traumatic stress and suicidal thoughts.

Cindy Martinez: 28-year resident of Washoe County and retired law enforcement officer it's been a while since I have had to do any training or mandatory reporting. Her concern is about having a library environment that is open to not only adults and children but inviting an adult entertainer to under the auspices of cultural exposure to read to children wanted to read from the Nevada State mandated reporter website it gives a lost of all of those who are mandated reports and on this board of library staff should take notice. Doctors, teachers, and clergy professionals are to report child abuse and neglect in a mandatory report in Nevada. H

Donna Lee: Showed her opposition to the drag queen story hour. Feels this event is not appropriate for young children. Feels the public had brought many facts to the board as to why to no longer continue this event. Feels it is disgusting and urges the board to cease this event going forward. The goal should be education and a safe place in the public library.

Aaron Alvarez: Is all for drag time story time stated that the reason most don't show it is because for many years we have been trained to fear men wearing dresses or woman wearing three-piece suits. Been trained irrationally to think that this has something to do with sex and it does not. You do not understand the difference between gender and sex. Humans have existed on a spectrum to fear change. Feels that the library is a safe place for children. Stated the clothing is nothing to be feared. Washoe County government is not a Christian institution. Feels this will help children understand there is diversity and difference in the world.

Kathy Kennedy Reyes: Was here to show opposition to the drag queen story time event. Feels the event is grooming the children for future issues. Feels the children are no longer protected and are being exposed to adult issues at such an early age.

Amy Smith: Did some research across the country and found out that people who are employed as school counselors or teaching assistants and story hour presenters have been arrested for the following crimes child sexual assault and child pornography. Just last moth in Henderson Nevada there was a case of a lewd act. Library hosted a drag queen story hour and the person who was scheduled was a convicted sex offender of an eight-year-old little boy. This person was not background checked by the library system the parent advocacy group contacted the library and what did they do put another one in their place and then issued a public apology to the community. Would like to know if the library is conducting background checks on the individuals.

Bruce Foster: A grandfather of eight. Feels that the concept and the whole process

of sexualization of children just didn't happen yesterday, its been a process over many decades started way back during the time of Margaret Sanger who pushed the whole idea of a new sexual revolution there was a reduction in the black population but all and brought fourth the term birth control and through that whole process of that progressive agenda and through the decades we are here like we are back in school. Back then there was no such thing as a transgender and all these identities that they now claim to have and men being able to have babies and all this insanity this is all a cultural shift. It is a way to disintegrate the nuclear family apart due to this whole new concept of utopia. We have so many sick individuals That have entered our public school system and now the library is a part of this agenda as well.

Cody Hussla: Sparks resident and mother of three homeschooled children. She takes them to the Spanish Springs library for story time and feels she must constantly be on the watch of what books they might pick up and what they might hear at the library. She feels the library is no longer a safe place for their innocence of children and this saddens her deeply because the innocence of our children is the most important thing in the entire world. Feels children are the future. Stated that she may not take her children to the library anymore and it is disappointing because the libraries are supposed to be a place of learning and fun creativity and exploration and purity.

Julie Adams: She does not understand where the goal is not to teach children to love reading instead the goal is social engineering your beliefs to promote teaching about people who defy rigid gender restrictions why is that up to you this is a divisive issue and I agree with Grandma story hour.

Erica Harris: She is a mother of four that has a lot to say about this issue. To the average child a person in drag in not just a person in a classroom. Her personal experience has been walking down the street with her children and seeing someone with drag and the children have a lot of questions. She would prefer her children hear a speech from a Veteran than a drag queen. Drag queen is not for children and less to have in a public library with children.

Danelle Archuleta: Did a ton of research on the issue and she would like to vet the people to background checks but does not mean that they will not break the laws even though they are background checked. The motive is for acting purposes get dressed up and act. Only the lord can judge not us humans. She sees both sides of the coin but how do you stop someone who wants to read to children. Said others should volunteer to read at the libraries. Feels there are greater issues such as homelessness than drag queen story time.

Mabel: is a transgender person and would have liked to have been exposed to LGQBT as a younger person that way he would not be afraid of who he is. Feels this

event can make someone not want to die. Most of his friends want to end their life because they are different. Just trying to show who they are and just trying to be themselves. Wants to feel like he belongs in this society. Let people do what they want with their children don't allow people to ban our own speech. Freedom of expression is important.

James Greenland: has attended the library since he was 8 years old attended story hour and just hung out. Has a child now and is very careful with the exposure to his child. Drag queen story time is not a normal environment for children.

5) New Business

a) For Discussion: Drag Queen Storytime Presentation and Discussion

*Director Scott presenting on the history of Drag Queen Storytime for the Washoe County Library System including a viewing of virtual drag queen storytime provided in 2020.
Board discussion followed*

b) Presentation: Washoe County Library Annual Report

Director Scott presented on the library annual report.

c) *For Possible Corrective Action:* Rehearing of Item 5a from the October 19, 2022 agenda, which was mistakenly not agendized "for possible action". The Board of Trustees will review, discuss, and take possible action to amend the Bylaws of the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees.

Board voted unanimously to approve the trustee bylaws after discussion.

6) Reports

a) Library Director Update

Director Scott provided an update to the board on the library

b) North Valleys Library Report

Jonnica Bowen provided a PowerPoint presentation to the board on events at the North Valleys Library branch in the past year.

c) Reference and Technology Team (RTT) Report

Jessica Fanaselle provided a presentation by Reference and Technology Team including Book a Librarian and other popular library programs.

7) Staff Announcements – Three Minute Time Limit Per Person

No discussion or action may be taken upon any matter raised under this comment section until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda.

Assistant Library Director Joan Dalusung spoke on her upcoming retirement, her 20 years in Nevada, and thanks the library system and board.

8) Public Comment – Three Minute Time Limit Per Person

No discussion or action may be taken upon any matter raised under this public comment section until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda.

Kathy Kennedy - Shared various reasons for her opposition to DQST programming at the public libraries and shared a personal anecdote explaining how a friend had helped create programming at a local college years ago that, in the end, grew into something even he no longer supported. She compared DQST programming at libraries to a weed in a back yard that needed to be pulled before it took over everywhere. She indicated individuals could identify as anything they chose - a six-year-old child, a queen, a Board member - and utilize that to get what they wanted.

M. Evan – participating remotely via zoom, said that people should be more accepting, and not turn this into a bigger issue. He feels that people should be able to present and volunteer their time to the community as they are.

Bruce Parks – States that he feels that the LGBT is protected, and given all these programs, but wants to know where all the programs are for the veteran community. He stated that this is so insidious that it is making its way into our children’s programming and feels that this is an attack on our children that needs to be stopped. He stated his concerns about when we are going to address the MAP community (minor attracted person or pedophile), because this is what this all going to devolve into. He feels our public libraries have become warfare centers because of this one program. And he also feels that our boards emails should be public.

Reva Crump – Reiterated Bruce Park’s comment about the emails going through the Board Director as an intermediary, instead of directly to them. She does not feel it is the library director’s function and that because of this, many emails have been missed. She was concerned that library notifications were not going out to the public and being kept within the library board. She states that the board should be advocate for the library and the community. She feels the county could truly benefit and be kept in touch with the public by putting information that is going on in the library within this newsletter that people are able to sign up for. She also stated her concern that something is blocking communication, when they held a library board special meeting that only three trustees showed up for, and those three trustees were inquiring as to where the rest of the trustees were. She stated because of this that they were in violation of the open meeting law. She stated that not everything is the red queen’s story hour, but there are also bylaw problems that need to be addressed.

Janet Butcher – Said she has heard nothing but hatred, and concerns about children and the exposure and exploitation. She went on to state she does not care what anybody’s sexuality is, and that it is really nobody’s business. She said a couple years ago we had suicidal rocks and

asked, is the library now going to promote suicide in our libraries? She said when we talk about marginalized community, what about illegal drugs, strippers, and prostitutes in our libraries? She said we should not allow or promote exploitation of our children. She offered the board assistance setting up email accounts.

Danelle Moser – remote , she mentioned the postponement of the meetings. Mentioning she heard the district attorney or assistant district attorney say that the board did have a quorum. Saying that we couldn't have a vote, because we didn't have enough people that wanted to serve on the board and that is why we did not have a quorum. She mentioned pornography and the morality of it. She believes that it is a personal decision. She brought up that Disney programs are full of everything being discussed. She feels instead of attacking these poor people, that you

(Danelle Moser Continued)

should take the time to check out the websites, radio, TV, and music that contains so much violence and smut that kids are looking at. She feels that there is an obvious need, and acceptance for this program because the numbers have gone up from 40 to 400. She went on to say that the LGBT is here, and it is real. She feels that the name calling and keeping them from reading to our kids is unconstitutional. She mentioned that the library has bigger issues like allowing the homeless to come into the library and sleep, or going to restroom, but not using the restroom. She says this is not about your morality, it is about their constitutional rights, and future not ours. We should not be judging them, that people are preaching to the choir and that this is not a morality issue.

Valerie Fianacca – She started out by apologizing to Mr. Chapman for having to suffer through the public comments, and that she did too. She stated that Jonica's love for the library is infectious, and apparent, and that she is grateful for librarians like her. She mentioned to Mr. Scott one small notable correction to his presentation "the US is not a democracy" it is a "constitutional republic", and that he may want to check out a book to figure out the differences because it is very important. She mentioned that it wouldn't be her choice, she would do away with it all together, but she is a realist and knows that they will never drop the agenda, and that it is not going away. So, her suggestion would be that they could consider holding their drag queen story hour on a Sunday when the library is closed, so that only parents who want their children groomed in this matter are present. She feels that you are coming for our children, and stated I promise you take it to heart, I am going to take a different track, and that she is going to come from library funding from every single angle possible. If you come to her with this program, she will round up an army, and come for your funding. She says she hates to do this because since she was a child, she has always loved the library and spent time as a child from morning to night. She mentioned that she was a homeless child for much of her life and lived literally in the libraries, it was her refuge. She stated she does not want to do what she is about to do but has no choice because you have sworn this agenda is not going away.

Cindy Martinez – She started out by thanking everyone for their time. She said she is sure that they are now understanding that the community has been well engaged in the last couple of years. She does not feel that this is a waste of time, and that she understands that they are unpaid volunteers, but this is the very core of the foundation of our government which is covered under the first amendment of our Bill of Rights, and that it is the exercise of free speech. She goes on to say that she disagrees vehemently with some of the comments and is uncomfortable with what was said but said she understands that if she wants to be respected from her first amendment positions, that she must respect theirs. She mentioned that she is a veteran and does also deeply believe in the constitution, the Bill of Rights. She stated that she does not think anybody has cast aspersions on anybody in a personal way, but there were some pointed attacks which is unfortunate. She suggested that they go to a website called gaysagainstgroomers.com, one of that is opposed is dried and pride events involving children and propagandizing youth with LGBTQ plus media with a screen shot of the Blue's Clues cartoon that Mr. Scott played. She said let's not be mistaken, just because Blue's Clues is broadcasting propaganda seeming to normalize different sexualities does not make it right. That it is destroying heterosexual nuclear family and trying to separate the citizenry from their God. She asked when they are considering these things

(Cindy Martinez Continued)

that they understand that they have a responsibility to respect both sides of the discussions. In ending she reiterated on an earlier question. What is your objective, what is the purpose of this? She said the question isn't why do children need to be exposed to drag queens? She said the real question should be, why do drag queens need to expose themselves to children?

Adrian Lowry – He started out by saying he heard some discussion on the board that they do not understand why this is happening, and why are these people showing up and making such a big deal? He says that people are attacking story time, saying that drag queens are sexual, or sexually abusing children, that they are immoral and there is something wrong with them, or that they are worse than straight people. Someone interrupted and asked when that was said, and many joined in on that discussion and comments became inaudible. Mr. Lowry continued his comments saying that there is a lot of negative stuff coming out of this meeting. People are okay with gay people as long as they don't act gay. They don't want people talking or reading to their children if they are openly gay or a trans male or female because they think it hurts their child being in the same space as an LGBTQ community. He feels that this is an issue of cultural supremacy, they're okay with them as long as they don't act gay. He feels this program is an effective political program. It is both national and distributed which makes it very effective. And went on to explain how it works that a national figurehead or national media wants you to not support and exclude them, by not supporting the LGBTQ. Please put your foot down and support the gay community.

Tyler (no surname given) – Tyler reiterated that a previous commenter mentioned that there are a lot of facilities used by people in support of this event. He said this is quite hilarious because most of these facilities are a slippery slope, and they have the same slippery slope

policies that were used when they were trying to legalize being gay in the 1900's when they believed making being gay legal would lead to pedophilia or MAPS, because at that time they believed you were a pedophile if you were gay. And they are doing this again. He believes you should just let people do with their children in accordance with the law, and don't allow people to do a book burning with this event. And as a library you should know the ramification of miscellaneous books, this amount of speech expression, and events that some people don't like can lead to a lot of worse things. He feels if the people in the room are so worried about pedophilia that maybe they should turn their focus into their churches because he has heard more stories about people doing stuff in the churches, than he has heard any drag queen, trans or gay person doing something like that.

Lisa Mark – Believes that children should have more diverse options. And that were making comments about what happened in the 80's and it is not amazing anymore.

END

9) Board Comment – Limited to Announcements, Strategic Plan Activity Updates, or Issues Proposed for
Future Agendas and/or workshops

Scott, Jeff

From: Alex Alcantar <alex.alcantar1984@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 10:03 AM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Please Continue to Support Drag Queen Story Time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hi Jeff,

I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to send a quick email to urge you and the rest of the Board to continue to support and host Drag Queen Story Time events. Contrary to what folks with their own personal biases, prejudices, and internalized hate for the LGBTQ+ community would try to tell you, these events are vital to continue to teach kids love, acceptance, and tolerance in super fun ways. Let's be real, this is not a sex show at the library. It's just something fun for parents to take their kids to. Drag queens are awesome, they always have been and they always will be. There is absolutely nothing contained in the programming that would be objectively inappropriate for kids. A (albeit extremely) vocal minority should not be able to push the community at large around just because they can't get beyond whatever personal internalized hatred or intolerance that they hold inside. Please don't let ignorance win, there's many more of us that want to see events and opportunities like this be a regular thing for our kids (myself included, I've got a 9 year old).

I appreciate your time in reading this and if there's anything else I can do to help out, please let me know.

Thanks so much,
Alex Alcantar

Scott, Jeff

From: Angela Dunlap <angela.dunlap88@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 5:41 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Story time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Mr Scott,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing in support of Drag Queen Story Time. Please do whatever you can to keep it in place and, if possible, work against those who would rather get rid of it.

Thank you,

Angela D.

Scott, Jeff

From: Angeline Peterson <angelinempeterson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:58 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Storytime

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good afternoon Mr. Scott,

My name is Angeline Peterson and I have lived in the Reno/Sparks area my entire life. As a proud member of the Board of Our Center, northern Nevada's only LGBTQ+ community center, I want to express to you how much joy drag queen storytime brings to our community. Not only is it a way for children to be introduced to drag, but it gives them an opportunity to get to know folks who they otherwise wouldn't likely meet. Allowing for children to expand their minds at such young ages encourages acceptance of themselves, their families and friends, and of the world in general.

I was lucky enough to attend the first drag queen storytime at the Sparks library and I was so impressed by the turnout. With few exceptions, the crowd was enthusiastic, joyous, and excited to be there.

I hope you will continue to see the good in these events and continue them in the face of naysayers. Should you ever want to partner with Our Center, I would be happy to connect with you and make more magic happen.

All the best,

--

Angeline M. Peterson
Operations Executive Administrator, StemExpress
Education Advisor, Kappa Alpha Theta, Beta Mu Chapter
Board Member, Our Center
775.848.4987

Preferred pronouns: she/her/hers

Scott, Jeff

From: Anna Freeman <annafreeman2010@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:18 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: I support drag queen story hour

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hi!

Drag queen story hour is a great activity for children; I appreciate that they are offered at Washoe County Libraries. The only bad part is the jerks outside yelling!

Thanks,

Scott, Jeff

From: Ashley Melendez <maisykat2010@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:50 AM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I wholeheartedly support Drag Queen Storytime in our libraries! Please keep this program going.

Sincerely,
Ashley Melendez

Scott, Jeff

From: Brian Walden <thebwalden@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:04 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: I support drag queen Storytime in our libraries

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Director Scott,

As a 30 year resident of Nevada, homeowner in Sparks and parent, I'm deeply invested in the diversity of experience and exposure to culture for our community. I'm writing to add to the support of Drag Queen Storytime in our washoe county libraries.

Thank you,
Brian Walden

Scott, Jeff

From: Cindy S <cindysullivan@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 9:47 AM
To: Hartung, Vaughn; Hill, Alexis; Lucey, Robert (Bob) L; Herman, Jeanne; Jung, Kitty; Library Board; Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queens in the Library/Letter

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Trustees and Commissioners,
I have nothing against Drag Queens..I've gone to some of the shows and enjoyed them AS AN ADULT! I don't believe it's a lifestyle that children need to become familiar with.
Shall we invite the prostitutes from Mustang to also read to the kids? Maybe we can find some drug dealers and invite them also.
Is there any parent in the world that says "gosh I hope my child becomes a drag queen?". I have 6 and 8 year old grandchildren, they don't need Drag Queens as role models. Acceptance can be taught at home or even in class but this is just over the top.
Let's introduce some COMMON SENSE into the schools. Feel free to include my comments in the transcripts.
Cynthia Sullivan
Reno, NV 89503 (775) 376-3705



Drag Queens in the Libraries are on the Library Board Agenda
16 Nov 2022 4pm

North Valleys Library
1075 N Hills Blvd, Reno, NV 89506

My fellow Patriots,

While Arizona and Nevada continue to compete for last place in the counting of our ballots, this Wednesday, November 16th at 4pm at the North Valleys Library, 1075 North Hills Boulevard, the Washoe County Library Board will be meeting to discuss Drag Queen Story Hour. We have been working to get the Library Board to eliminate this program but the Library Director, Jeff Scott insists that it will remain. In communities across this country this program has been used to indoctrinate and groom our kids into accepting this behavior as normal. Our stance as conservatives is that this is adult entertainment that has no place in our libraries. There are places where this started in libraries and then wormed its way into the schools. We cannot allow this to happen in Washoe County. We need to stop it now. We have finally convinced the Library Board to put this item on their agenda and it will be at this month's meeting that a presentation and discussion will occur. I am confident that the presentation will be about the benefits and harmlessness of this program with no counterpoint information provided. This is once again going to be up to *We the People* to stop this madness! We need to show up in strength as I am quite sure the leftists will be there in numbers. Be prepared to provide public comment about why you oppose this program in our taxpayer funded libraries. This has not been added as an "Action Item" to the agenda so all comments will be during Public Comment. What is scheduled is a Drag Queen Story Hour Presentation and Discussion by the Library Board. We very much appreciate all that our libraries provide the community with the exception of this ONE program that Mr. Scott insists is "the most popular program" in our library.

You may also email your comments to the Commissioners, Jeff Scott the Library Director, and this other email that appears to be dead as no one ever responds. We have located zero working emails for the Library Board Trustees. Since the Library Board Trustees are selected by the County Commissioners, it would make sense that they could pass the emails on to these Trustees. You may also request that your comments be included in the record transcript of the meeting.

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Scott, Jeff

From: Dr Phalanges <nick.bashaw361@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:37 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Story Time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I am writing this email to show my unequivocal support of having Drag Queen Story Time in our libraries. I wholeheartedly believe it's valuable for our children, and misunderstood by a lot of adults. I have heard so much about the kids loving it and I think we need exposure to all sorts of people starting at a young age. Please consider allowing Drag Queen Story Time in our libraries.

Thanks,

Nick Bashaw

Scott, Jeff

From: Daniel Barthel <dan_barthel@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:41 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: I support Drag Queen Story time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Mr Scott,

I'm writing in support of the Drag Queen Storytime program in our libraries. I think it is a unique and fun program. I know not everyone supports it, but my feeling is that they can choose to not bring their children if they aren't in support of this offering.

Thank you for your time.

-Dan Barthel
Washoe County Resident

Scott, Jeff

From: Elisa Kirkpatrick <tycos@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 8:04 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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> Dear Jeff Scott,
> I support Drag Queen Storytime in our libraries. Do not cancel this program. It is wonderful.
> Thank you,
> Elisa Kirkpatrick

Scott, Jeff

From: Erin Gelmstedt <sweetpandemonium@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 6:14 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Storyhour Support

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Jeff Scott,

I am the parent of a four year old child. My child and I live in Washoe County and patron Washoe County libraries. I fully support Drag Queen Storytime and see it as critical need to support and represent our diverse community.

Those who angrily protest these functions are a source of concern to the safety of the event as no one knows how far they're willing to go to make their points, as firearms have reportedly been brought by protesters.

Drag Queens are not our problem, but those who violently protest against an event they don't have to participate in.

Thank you for your time,

Erin Gelmstedt
Washoe County resident and parent

Sent from my iPhone

Scott, Jeff

From: He Kh <hennah_khan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:29 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: I support Drag Queen Story Hour

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to email you because of the distressing news I've heard about people protesting Drag Queen Story Hour. I want to firmly state that I SUPPORT DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR, and that bigoted, homophobic protests against it are NOT the community standard. Please do what you can to protect this program, and support inclusivity amongst us. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Hennah Scilacci

Scott, Jeff

From: Jacqui H <jacqui.elyse@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 8:20 AM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Story Time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I heard this is a thing. Sounds fun!! I support!

Scott, Jeff

From: Jeff DePaoli <88fingerz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:40 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Please continue to support Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Mr. Scott,

It has come to my attention that a small but very vocal group of people have been attending Washoe County Library meetings and attempting to shut down Drag Queen Storytime in our libraries.

I'm writing to show my support for these events as I am unable to attend this week's 4:00 meeting. Drag Queen Storytime is an enriching, engaging, and fun event for kids and parents alike. It helps to foster a love of books and storytelling in our youth and the value of that, in my opinion, cannot be overstated. These drag queens pour themselves into these performances and present stories in exciting and enjoyable ways. They are a great service to our community.

I sincerely hope that the library system will continue its support of these events in the future.

Thank you for your time.

- Jeff DePaoli

Scott, Jeff

From: Jessica Sullivan <jessicajsullivan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 6:55 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I'm writing to share my feelings on the drag queen storytime. It's something I think a lot of people hold dear because it's inclusive and fun!

What I don't understand is the outrage against it. If you don't like it, don't go. It seems pretty simple.

Please keep Drag Queen Storytime!

Jessica Sullivan
775-527-0263

Sent from my iPhone

Scott, Jeff

From: Jill Pellicciarini <jedimom777@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:14 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen story time.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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>
> I would like to voice my support for drag queen story time. First of all, drag queens are fantastic performers and they can bring literature to life. Second of all drag queens are not predators. Drag queens are members of the community that practice an art form that has been around for thousands of years and many different cultures. They are volunteering their time and incredible energy, we should give them our support.

>
> Jill Pellicciarini

>
> Sent from my iPhone

Scott, Jeff

From: Joshua Dunlap <jdunlap101@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 5:09 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Story time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I support Drag Queen Story time. Please continue to allow this wonderful event to stay in our public libraries.

Thank you,

Joshua Dunlap

Scott, Jeff

From: hammlett@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:00 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Thank you

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Mr. Scott,

I just saw your interview with Rebecca Kitchen of Channel 8 News and I wanted to thank you for recommending the books on the historical perspective of Indigenous people in the United States. I am excited to read them! I would also like to encourage you to continue the Drag Queen Storytimes in our local libraries. My granddaughter is part of the LGBTQ+ community and we would be delighted to attend!

Thank you again! I love Washoe County libraries!

Julia Davis-Bingham

Scott, Jeff

From: Justin n Amber Meredith.Rouviere <amber.justin.married@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:00 AM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag queen story time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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To whom it may concern,

I've recently been told that there are people who are acting ridiculous and think Drag Queen story time is something wrong or perverse.

I want to tell you it isn't. It's a celebration of acceptance and diversity. Doing drag is a form of expression and creativity, and taking that away because of bigotry and fear mongering isn't right.

Standing up against bigots is a time honoured American tradition, and I would hope the library of all places would support and let it continue.

Thank you for your time,

Amber Rouviere

Scott, Jeff

From: Kate Kirkpatrick <kslaboch@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:57 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Support for Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello and to whom it may concern:
I wish to submit my public comment, with the hearty support of the Washoe County Library's continued event Drag Queen Storytime.

Kudos to Washoe County for presenting diverse, inclusive events like this one; a wonderful opportunity for children to enjoy stories while also meeting active, engaged community members. These beautiful people represent the best of what we have to offer in Washoe County, and their participation shows children that a caring environment can look different than what they may experience at home. I believe that our children should grow up knowing that we shouldn't discriminate against people regardless of how they look, or how they dress. The Washoe County Library is providing an important cultural opportunity with Drag Queen Storytime, and I send applause and support for their continued support and participation in children's events.

Best,
Kathleen S. Kirkpatrick
Reno, NV

Scott, Jeff

From: Kate Pollard <catherinep@unr.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 5:42 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag queen storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Mr Scott,

I am writing in support of the Washoe County Library System's Drag Queen Storytime. I know it has been as continues to be a controversial activity, but as a parent who attended the last event with my kids, I think this is a great event. Libraries can push boundaries and allow opportunities to spark conversation. Being controversial is not a bad thing, but it certainly is a great thing for the community. I hope this event happens as planned.

Best,
Kate Pollard

Kate Pollard ~ *Principal Lecturer & Coordinator, Music Education* (she/her)
University of Nevada, Reno
Department of Music/0226
Reno, NV 89557-0226
Office 775.682.9019 ~ Fax 775.784.6896

UNR is located on Washeshiu (Washoe), Numu (Northern Paiute), & Newe (Western Shoshone) traditional territory.

Scott, Jeff

From: Kelli Hays <kellihays87@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 8:30 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hi Jeff,

I would like to express my utter support for the Drag Queen Storytime. This event gives youth a chance to see the diversity in our community in a positive manner. This event empowers and inspires youth and engages their creativity. My best friend is a big sister for the Boys and Girls club and takes her little to this event. Her little looks forward to this event each time. Please continue to support this valuable event which parents and caregivers have the choice to bring their children to, as well as the choice not to attend.

Sincerely,
Kelli Hays

Scott, Jeff

From: Kevin Thomas <kevinpthomas@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 6:30 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Keep Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Please keep Drag Queen Story Time!

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy Note9.

Scott, Jeff

From: Khalilah Cage <khalilah.cage@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 6:49 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag queen story time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Jeff,

This is to inform you that I support Rrsg Queen Storytime at Washoe County Libraries. I've been taking my kids who are now 10 And 12 to this even for a few years. We love the inclusion and diversity of members of the community. Not to mention we love the drag queens and the message they deliver. It's harmless and as a mother I think I've warned the right to ask you not to cancel this beautiful event.

Regards,

Khalilah Cage
775-229-6674

--

Khalilah T. Cage
Co-creator/Host "I Am Her" Podcast
Co-owner Brewer's Cabinet, Ole Bridge Pub, Sierra Tap House, Shim's Surplus Supplies
Songstress & Stylist
NNBW Best in Business 2020 "New Nevada Innovators (Movers and Shakers)"

Scott, Jeff

From: Kim DesRoches <kadesroches13@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:26 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: support for Drag Queen Story Hour

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good morning.

I want to express my unconditional support for Drag Queen Story Hours at the library. If there are community members or parents who object to these events, they are free not to attend, but I ask that you respect the rights of other parents or community to attend as they choose. As attendance at such events is voluntary, leave that choice up to parents for their own children and to community members based on their own interests.

Thank you
Kim DesRoches

Scott, Jeff

From: Kimberly M Hines <khines@unr.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:48 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag Queen Story Time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Hello,

I am writing in regard to the Drag Queen story time that the Washoe County Libraries sometime host. I think it is wonderful and fantastic offering to the community, for those who choose to attend. I have frequented the Northwest library during the month of Pride and loved being able to find inclusive books on a special table, that my two kids were able look at and check out. Drag Queen story time is a great extension of that. A fun opportunity for families that want to participate.

Thank you,
Kimberly Hines

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Scott, Jeff

From: Megan Lahti <megan.lahti@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 8:59 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Support: Drag Queen Stories

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Hello,

Just a quick note to say I support Drag Queen Stories in our public libraries, and you guys are awesome for this (and so many more things in our communities)!

Have a happy day,
Megan

Scott, Jeff

From: Rebecca Morman <msrebeccamorman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:16 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Keep Drag Queen Story Time

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Hello,

I am a resident of Washoe County and I support and would like to keep Drag Queen Story Time in our local libraries!

Thank you,

Rebecca Morman

775.240.3721

Scott, Jeff

From: russ gronert <russgron@att.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2022 11:54 AM
To: Hartung, Vaughn; Hill, Alexis; Lucey, Robert (Bob) L; Herman, Jeanne; Jung, Kitty; Library Board; Scott, Jeff
Subject: Drag queen Story hour

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Put a stop to this horrible program in Washoe Libraries.

Russ-Reno

Scott, Jeff

From: Sara DePaoli <scdepaoli@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:44 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: Re: Ask a Librarian Response

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi Jeff,

I reached out to the library in 2019 when I first heard Drag Queen Story Hour had made it to Reno (see below). My love and excitement for this program continues today. Drag Queen Story Hour is just another way to make reading fun. It encourages reading, celebrates diversity, builds empathy, teaches tolerance, and helps prevent bullying. The most important thing we can do for us and future generations is to get books in front of as many people as possible. Give kids books. Please don't take this opportunity away from our community.

Most sincerely,

Sara DePaoli

On Wed, Jun 12, 2019 at 5:12 PM Sara DePaoli <scdepaoli@gmail.com> wrote:

Jeff,

Thank you very much. I am absolutely thrilled to have this program in Reno. Thanks, again

Sara

On Wed, Jun 12, 2019 at 11:19 AM Scott, Jeff <jscott@washoecounty.us> wrote:

Thank you for your response. Drag Queen Story Hour is a popular program that has recently been adopted by libraries across the country. For us, we thought this program would complement the Northern Nevada Pride Parade (<https://northernnevadapride.org/>) that happens in Reno the Saturday after our Drag Queen Story Hour. We hope that events like these will encourage inclusivity with everyone in our community.

There is a non-profit that provides a Frequently Asked Questions section on their website. I would encourage you to take a look for more information.

<https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/faq/>

Please feel free to reach out at any time for concerns. We appreciate your feedback.

Sincerely,

Jeff

Jeff Scott

Library Director

Washoe County Library System

[301 S. Center St. Reno, NV 89501](https://www.washoecountylibrarysystem.org/301-S-Center-St-Reno-NV-89501)

jscott@washoecounty.us

(775)327-8340

Scott, Jeff

From: Sean Arthur <penndragon2469@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 10:13 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: I support drag queen storytime in our libraries

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I support drag queen storytime in our libraries

Scott, Jeff

From: Sheena Britschgi <britschgi13@googlemail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 5:24 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: I support Drag Queen story time!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello Mr Scott,
I just wanted to send this email in support of Drag Queen Story Time. I want to see this program continue.
That's it :)

Sheena Britschgi
89503
--
Sheena Britschgi

Scott, Jeff

From: Tayler Duby <taylerduby819@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:14 PM
To: Scott, Jeff
Subject: I Support Drag Queen Storytime

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi Jeff,

I support Drag Queen Storytime in Washoe County Libraries.

Thank you,
Tayler Duby