

**Lewiston City Library**  
**Ad Hoc Committee for Library Materials Selection Reconsideration**  
**Minutes of Meeting | November 7, 2022**  
**Event Space**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Board member, Andy Hanson, at 7:15 PM with Colleen Olive, Lexie Brown, Lynn Johnson, Jan Johnson, Brad Glover, and Andy Hanson in attendance.

**2. Establish Purpose of Meeting**

Lynn Johnson, Director, explained the purpose of the convening, the steps for reconsideration according to the Collection Development Policy and its appendices.

**3. Review Material**

The book in consideration was physically reviewed by all members of the committee.

**4. Discuss Material**

Discussion followed about the item in question, including both strengths and weaknesses. The age of the item is seen as a weakness since it is a price guide of antiques. There is no cultural context of the images and information that were considered racially offensive. The availability of the information elsewhere is limited to vendors or platforms where a person inquiring would have to pay for it which could be seen as a barrier. A strength discussed is that the item provides a thorough resource with images of items produced before 2006. Online resources were described for learning more about the items that were identified as racially offensive images including the Ferris State University Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia. Those on the committee described how they actually felt they learned from the review process and their attempts to learn more about the items in the book identified as offensive. It was noted that the book was highly rated as a thorough resource in reviews.

**5. Draft Advisory Report of the Board of Trustees - Action Item**

The final determination of the committee is that the board should retain the book in the collection, and that they would encourage the patron to explore the context around the images and to draw conclusions on the basis of what is learned. The committee appreciates the patron bringing this item to their attention and how it is important to follow the process in sharing their view with the library's administration and board.

The committee would like to report to the board that they believe the library should consistently strive to collect materials over time that are accurate and more culturally relevant but also shine light on racism of the past. The committee encourages the

Trustees to reference the Intellectual Freedom Statement, as part of the appendices of the Collection Development Policy when making a final determination on retention of the item.

The group voted unanimously to retain the book and would advise the board to do so, with Library Director, Lynn Johnson, abstaining to ensure there was not a tie vote.

**6. Adjournment - 8:05 PM**