

Library Advisory Board Minutes

Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 1 p.m.

Attendees: Aaron Jones, Octavio Sanchez, Cynthia Cochran, Kimberly Seay, Teresa Stafford, Sue Ann Pekel, Hadi Dudley and Vira Kousol.

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of May 1, 2019 Minutes

There was not a quorum of members in attendance to approve the minutes from the May 1, 2019 meeting. The minutes will be reviewed for approval at the next Library Advisory Board meeting.

Agenda Items

1. Sue Ann Pekel reported on Summer Reading Program.
 - a. The summer reading club is funded by Friends of Library as well as the big program on Thursdays.
 - i. In addition to all those programs, Friends also sponsoring Opera of the Ozarks.
 1. *Monkey See, Monkey Do* is Saturday, June 13th.
 2. *The I Like Being a Kid* Concert is Tuesday, June 11th.
 3. BLF5 Summer Events, Drawing Workshop with Local Illustrator, Rich Davis is Thursday, June 20th at 2:00 p.m.
 4. Ashley Franklin Storytime, author of *Not Quiet Snow White* is Tuesday, July 23rd at 10:30 a.m. There will also be a book sale and signing.
 - ii. Adult programs offered this summer.
 1. A Visit with Delia Owens is Saturday, July 20th at 11:00 a.m., sponsored by Library Foundation.
 2. Zen Doodling will be led by our staff member on Wednesday, June 19th.
 3. Heartfulness Meditation, a world-wide group approached Heather about bringing the program to the library.
 - iii. Program brought to us by members of our community.
 1. *Journey Into Space* by Dr. Katherine Auld Board Chair of NWA Space.
 2. *Once Upon a Dance* presented by NWA Ballet Theater. This program is a component of the Dance Anywhere/Dance Everywhere initiative funded in part by a Walton Family Foundation Grant.
 3. *Sam Reider and the Human Hand – Future Folk Music* which is an educational concert for Middle School students presented by an ensemble that will be performing at the Walton Arts Center.
 - b. Summer Feeding Program with Bentonville Schools.
 - i. A partnership with Aramark and Bentonville Schools designated the library as a Summer Feeding Site.
 - ii. Free lunches will be provided to all children Mondays – Thursdays, from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- iii. There are no restrictions on income or residence.
 - iv. First day was a great success with ninety lunches served.
 - c. Changes to the Summer Reading Program.
 - i. Upgraded Summer Reading Club software, the version we were using is no longer being supported.
 - ii. Changed our prizes, as we are no longer buying small plastic prizes due to expense (\$700 last year) and the plastic pollution issues. Most parents are in support of this decision.
 - iii. Revamped Teen Volunteer Program with streamlined scheduling and training for greater efficiency.
 - iv. Two of our part-time youth services staff are moving on. Kendall, a graduate from the University of Arkansas, has accepted a 2nd grade teaching position at R.E. Baker and Giselle, a current NWACC student, has accepted a position as a private nanny.
 - d. Hadi updated LAB on facility maintenance.
 - i. We recently painted lots of walls, the Walmart Room and in some key areas we installed rub strips for the damage from chairs throughout the library.
 - ii. New walk-off mat outside installed and roof repairs done.
 - iii. Floor scrubber has to be replaced, a big vacuum and 2 small vacuums. The public works team is going to cost share the scrubber purchase.
 - e. Hadi updated LAB on the Cafe RFP Progress.
 - i. RFP is being reissued this month. The city is making changes to the previous document to make it more attractive to vendors. Gladys Shoemake, City Purchasing Administrator is completely reformatting the RFP.
 - ii. Café Selection Committee will review and select in mid-July.
 - iii. Hadi plans to establish a Library Café Committee to assist with ongoing approvals should the selected vendor have requests; for example: non-permanent changes such as painting/wall décor, new furniture or different hours of operation.
 - iv. Marketing and branding is a priority for most vendors and non-permanent changes to the space will be allowed to represent their brand.
 - e. Hadi gave a library personnel update.
 - i. Three positions posted: We hired two new part-time staff in the Children’s Department. We still have one position open in Circulation/Reference; Monday – Thursday evening from 4:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. We are currently conducting interviews.
 - f. Hadi updated strategic planning process.
 - i. Distributed summary documents to LAB members.
 - ii. Discussed feedback on patron surveys.
 - iii. Summary documents will be a group discussion in September.
- 2. Hadi gave the Friends of the Library Report.
 - a. Total income for May was \$37,406 and expenses were \$2,754 on GeekCon.
 - i. Friends funded summer reading program and committed \$21,207 with other projects.
 - b. Friends issued two scholarship \$1,500 each to high school students, Madelyn Bertrand and Arjun Krishna.
 - c. Friends Scholastic Book Fair is June 6th – 8th.
 - d. Hot Dog Cookout Anniversary Event, is October 26th free for patrons.
- 3. Teresa gave the Bentonville Library Foundation Report.
 - a. June 2019 donations totaled 44 gifts for a total \$3,005.91.
 - i. YTD: 146 gifts/donations for a total of \$13,961.76.
 - ii. Reflects a 23% increase in number of donors and 70% increase in dollars.
 - b. The Foundation’s spring appeal was very successful with a 9:1 return on dollars.

- i. 63% increase in donors (over 2018 spring appeal).
 - ii. 24% increase in dollars.
- c. 2019 strategic plan includes meetings with the Mayor and city council members.
 - i. Foundation is moving forward exploring the possibility of expanding the children's library space as phase I of a multi-phased capital campaign.
 - ii. All meetings have gone very well with positive feedback from council members.
 - iii. Walton Family Foundation site visit is June 6th.
- d. Foundation received a gift from Timex to sponsor the July 20th Literature Series author event with Delia Owsn.
- e. BLF's next board meeting is on Monday, June 10th.

The Library Advisory Board will meet September 4, 2019.

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 1:55 p.m.