

Lawton Public Library Board Meeting

Wednesday February 12, 2020

The Lawton Public Library Board met at 4:00 pm in the Family History Room at the Main Library.

Notice of the meeting and agenda were posted in accordance with Oklahoma law.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Patty Neuwirth, Chair.

Roll Call: Patty Neuwirth, Chair; Sue Kremmer, Vice Chair; Frantzie Couch, Member; Ellouise Love, Member; Tom Rine, Member (Arrived Late); Jenny Breeden, Friends Representative; Kristin Herr, Library Director; Megan Stockton, Administrative Assistant; Randy Warren, City Council Liaison; Bart Hadley, Deputy City Manager (Absent); Guest: Kathy Hines, Deputy Library Director

A motion was made to approve the Library Board minutes for the January 8, 2020 meeting as presented. (Couch/Love)

The Financial Report was given. Kristin stated that the financials looked similar to last time and that another transfer was in the works. Kristin also stated that the utility bills appear to be low thus far this fiscal year.

The Library Director's Report was given. Kristin reported that Jim Maroon, former Head of Reference, and Sydney Perry, former Librarian I, have both retired. Kristin reported that there has been a restructuring of positions within the Library. The Circulation and Reference departments are now one department. Kathy Hines, former Circulation Coordinator, was promoted to Deputy Library Director. Rachel Pierce, Librarian I, is now full time at the Library. Stephanie Shrock, Technology Specialist, is now full time with the Library.

The Friends' report was given. Jenny reported that the recent Soulful Stories event was a success. The turnout from the event was between 100 and 150 attendees. Books and DVDs were sold at the event with the leftover DVDs to be sold at the book sale. Phi Delta Kappa contacted the Friends to state that they would purchase a Soulful Story book for each elementary school in Lawton. The next Friends' meeting will take place at City Hall and the speaker is Dr. Legako who will be speaking about the Farmer's Market. Patty showed the Board a sample idea of a mural to be painted on the large brick wall in the parking lot and that will be discussed with the Friends.

There was nothing to report for Family History/SWOGS.

City Council/Agenda Items:

- Randy stated that there were no real updates from Council other than to express how thankful the City is for the passing of the CIP.

Circulation Update: Kathy informed the Board of the developments following the recent changes to the Library Card Policy that were voted on by the Library Board. Kathy reported that the

Library currently has 83 Welcome cards with less than \$100.00 of total fines. She told an anecdote of a young man living in a shelter who was able to check out items that he needed. Kathy then brought up a proposal for the Library to go fine free. The Library would still charge customers for lost or damaged items, but not late fees. Kathy said that along with this, the Library would host an amnesty program. Kathy also informed the Board that customers can now renew their library cards online.

Unfinished Business:

- Updates on the renovation project were given. The port-a-potties arrived February 10th and the wall in the lobby also went up that day. The port-a-potties are locked each night by staff. Kristin also reported that due to the renovation and taxes, the parking lot has been extremely full lately.
- The 2020-2022 Strategic Plan was discussed and a motion of approval was made. (Couch/Love) All voted to approve the plan.

New Business:

- There was further discussion of the elimination of late fees and the amnesty plan. There was a motion to approve the proposal. (Kremmer/Couch) All voted to approve the proposal and the amnesty event.
- The updates to the Circulation policy were discussed, but a vote for the matter was tabled.
- The incident reports from July to December 2019 were discussed and the topic of service animals was reviewed.

Comments from the Floor: Patty informed the Board about an upcoming art event called “Instruments Transformed.”

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 pm /Megan Stockton, Administrative Assistant III