

Library Advisory Board Meeting- Feb. 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Valerie Jensen at 4:05pm. A quorum was set with the following members present: Carolyn Caldwell, Sarah Kathan, Marlin Moore, Susie Davis, Rhonda LeBlanc, and Katie Jackson along with Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass and County Librarian Valerie Jensen. Not present: Sam Little.

No amendments needed to the Board contact list. Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved by Kathan with a 2nd by LeBlanc.

Old business:

Comment and concerns from the community – No comments from the board. At the previous meeting, it was suggested that GED classes be investigated at Winnie, and Spanish storytime return to Anahuac. Since November, GED classes started at Winnie in early January, and Aquilia De la Cruz resumed her Spanish storytime.

New business:

County Librarian Valerie Jensen discussed updates to the policy on large equipment. An updated was made in November, but due to some staff concerns, there were additional changes made. Board members Jackson, Caldwell, and LeBlanc discussed the pros and cons of the current policy and compromised on the following changes: Certain large equipment (\$500 and up) maybe checked out to patrons 18 years of age or older, must have a zero fine balance, and must have a library card for at least 60 days. At the May meeting we will revisit the policy to see how things have gone since the policy change. A motion was made by Caldwell to accept the policy, with a second by Davis.

The patron lost item policy was updated to reflect current overdue charges and the process for lost items. No changes were made to the policy. A motion was made by LeBlanc to accept the policy, with a second by Davis.

Librarian's report: Jensen gave an update on the Sam and Carmena Goss library; the timeline of events for carpet, furniture, and shelving, with an anticipated move in time around early March. Once a grand opening date has been set, all members will be invited. The remodel at Anahuac was ongoing. All board members got to see the changes in action. Jensen then gave a review of the end of year report from the library, noting that there was a surge in database usage in 2015. GED classes started in Winnie early January as part of the adult education funding through the College of the Mainland. GED and ESL continue at Anahuac, and is currently being investigated for interest at Mont Belvieu. Jensen gave an update on personnel – currently there are 2 positions open. Anahuac seeks a 12hpw Library Technician, and Mont Belvieu is looking for a 24hpw Children's Librarian. Next was an update of upcoming summer reading activities. Vass gave a brief talk about the mascots that will be participating in the first program of summer. The theme of "Get ready, set, READ will be another exciting time for the staff and public for programs. Other programs include Ronald McDonald, James Wand, and Chad Chesmark. We're looking forward to another successful year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50p.m. by Jensen.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Jensen