

Library Advisory Board Meeting- Nov. 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Sam Little at 4:05 p.m. A quorum was established and those present included board members Sam Little, Heather Puppa, Carolyn Caldwell, Susie Davis, Rhonda LeBlanc and Sarah Kathan. Also present were Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass and County Librarian Valerie Jensen. Those not in attendance were Katie Jackson.

Board contact list was presented with no new additions needed. Katie Jackson later called with her updated contact information. Minutes from the August meeting were approved by Kathan with a 2nd by Davis.

Old Business:

Comments and concerns from the community – Caldwell spoke about her concern regarding coupons handed out during summer reading. Some of the coupons were only good for breakfast and other required a purchase before use. This information will be forwarded to the Winnie staff as they gear up for their 2018 donations. Jensen thanked Caldwell because we don't often hear feedback on coupons.

New business:

Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass discussed a working policy for the new Do it Yourself Collection obtained through grant funds. The policy will be in addition to the library's small and large equipment policy and will cover loan periods, fines, along with a statement of use and liability.

Term expirations were up for several board members. Sam Little, Carolyn Caldwell, Sarah Kathan, and Rhonda LeBlanc. All members were invited to stay on the board unless they felt a need to step down. All unanimously agreed to continue to serve another 2 years on the board.

Other business: No other business was on the agenda to discuss.

Librarian's report:

Jensen gave an update on Juanita Hargraves Memorial Branch construction. A first meeting was held November 3 at the Winnie branch with the architect, library staff, and Commissioner Gore. Initial plans were presented along with discussion on various floor plans. Architects from PBK took the feedback and will soon have new drawings for staff.

Jensen gave an update on the library's role during Harvey. Employees went above and beyond by helping at local shelters, as well as dealing with their own damages, and helping family and friends. The County Judge requested the libraries be open late 2 weeks after Harvey, to which we obliged and helped the public with FEMA registrations and insurance. Fines, copies, and fax charges were waived during this time.

Finally, Jensen spoke about the unique programming done by staff. Traditional programs such as Storytime/Babygarten/Movie days/Book Club/Teen programs still take place monthly but some of the more unique programs are starting to take off bringing in new library users and lots of buzz in the community. Examples include: Wine tasting, craft clubs, gardening, outdoor movies, interactive displays, escape the room programs, live streaming events, etc. The staff does a great job of

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm with a motion by Davis and 2nd by Little.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Jensen