

Library Advisory Board – Regular Quarterly Meeting

February 8, 2022

Juanita Hargraves Memorial Branch, Winnie

The meeting was called to order by Sam Little at 4:05pm. A quorum was met. The following members were present: Sam Little, Carolyn Caldwell, Rhonda LeBlanc, Susie Davis, and LaShebia Haskin. Not present was Heather Puppa. Also present was County Librarian Valerie Jensen, Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass, and Branch Librarian Cindy Alegria.

No amendments were made to the board contact list.

There were no previous minutes to approve.

Old Business

Little stated he had heard wonderful things mentioned about the new library in Winnie.

New Business

New board member LaShebia Haskin, from mid-county, was welcomed. This was followed by a discussion of the term expirations of both Little and Caldwell, both of whom will remain on the Board.

Jensen then discussed updates made to the Long Range Plan, which is required, along with a Technology Plan, for accreditation with the state library. Previously met goals were removed from the plan and new goals added, including seeking additional training and grant funding, expanding services, and continuing to promote library resources. A motion to accept the changes was made by Davis, with a 2nd by Caldwell. Next, Jensen introduced proposed updates to a few policies. First, an addition was made to Meeting Room Policy to include clarification on trash removal after meeting room usage. A motion to accept the change was made by LeBlanc, with a 2nd by Haskin. The Dress Code Policy was updated to comply with the County's Uniform and Appearance Policy, with new statements to reflect that: wearing jeans is allowed, flip flops are prohibited, and PPE must be worn when required. A motion to accept these changes was made by Caldwell, with a 2nd by Davis. Lastly, the cost of copying and printing IRS forms was updated from \$0.10 to \$0.25 in the Policy on Photocopying, Printing, and Faxing. This brings the cost in line with all other copies and prints. A brief discussion followed about the previous change to \$0.25 for all prints and copies, regardless of black and white or color. A motion to accept the change to this policy was made by LeBlanc, with a 2nd by Haskin.

Other Business

Jensen and Vass briefly talked about the intent of the fine-free movement in some libraries. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. Alegria then shared about the Winnie library's recent partnership with the East Chambers High School where staff members Clarice Martel and Sydney Rexroat taught seniors about the hiring process. Davis suggested covering up the sign at the old Winnie library to avoid confusion. This has been requested and library staff will follow-up. LeBlanc remarked on the pergola outside the library and asked if there would be seating added. Alegria stated there are plans being made for seating and future programming under the pergola.

Librarian's Report

Jensen began by thanking the staff for their flexibility and creativity during the pandemic. During that time, curbside services were added and will remain as a regular service. Jensen then mentioned that LaShebia had left her position at Anahuac, but had since joined the Board. Other personnel changes at Anahuac include Danie Smith moving from library technician to teen programmer and April Knight, the children's programmer, is now full-time. Next, Jensen gave an update on the Friends of the Chambers County Library System's annual meeting, which was held on Saturday, February 5, 2022. It was a productive meeting with a good turnout. The Friends made Board appointments and granted wish list requests for the libraries. Jensen also discussed the addition of some new outreach programs. Anahuac and Mont Belvieu are offering Book Boxes to local daycares and Mont Belvieu is providing sensory and technology programs for kids. Program guides with library activities through May were distributed to those present. Finally, Jensen gave an update on Nerd Con, the pop culture convention held in Mont Belvieu in December. The library collaborates with the city and Eagle Pointe and it is a great way to highlight the library's offerings. There were 1,234 attendees at Nerd Con 2021.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at the Chambers County Library in Anahuac.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43pm.

Respectfully submitted, Annie Vass