

Library Advisory Board Meeting – February 11, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Sam Little at 4pm. A quorum was not met. The following members were present: Sam Little, Rhonda Leblanc, and Susie Davis. Not present were: Sarah Kathan, Heather Puppa, and Carolyn Caldwell. Also present was County Librarian Valerie Jensen and Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass.

Board contact list was presented with an update by Davis.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Davis with a 2nd by Leblanc.

Old Business:

Little mentioned a negative Facebook comment regarding the new library in Winnie. The post was later taken down but Jensen did mention the number of people who came to the defense of the library. Little also talked about something he saw where more people visit the library than go to the movies. This article expands on the comment: <https://news.gallup.com/poll/284009/library-visits-outpaced-trips-movies-2019.aspx>

New Business:

An update to the Lost Book Policy was given by Vass. The current policy does not give a time limit for returning an item that has been previously paid for. Vass mentioned that it would be easier for staff and save time if there was a time limit in place where patrons could not get their money back. Proposed time limits were 60 or 90 days to return an item with a receipt. The members present voted on 60 days and a final decision will be made pending votes from Caldwell, Kathan, and Puppa.

Librarian's Report:

Jensen gave a construction update for the Juanita Hargraves Memorial Branch in Winnie. A groundbreaking is scheduled for Feb. 20th at 10am at the site. Jensen also mentioned that the Anahuac library construction will begin later this year and be located beside Fort Anahuac Park.

Next, Jensen gave an update on personnel at Anahuac and Winnie. Jose Cabrera is the new after school Page at Anahuac, and Emma Tully is the new after school Page at Winnie. Allison Burks will start on Feb. 12 as the new part-time Library Technician in Winnie. Allison takes the place of Sydney Rexroat who moved to full time in January.

Finally, an update was given on Nerd Con 2. This event took place on Dec. 7 at Eagle Pointe in Mont Belvieu. This is the 2nd year for this event and the organizers (library staff, city workers, volunteers) were blown away by the attendance. Over 1200 people attended, and over 100 vendors sold items. We had great feedback from the community and are already planning Nerd Con 3 to be held in December, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Jensen