

Library Advisory Board – Regular Quarterly Meeting

November 8, 2022

Juanita Hargraves Memorial Branch, Winnie

Those present: President Sam Little, Carolyn Caldwell, Heather Puppa, Rhonda LeBlanc, and Susie Davis.
Not present: LaShebia Haskin. Library staff: County Librarian Valerie Jensen and Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass.

Sam Little called the meeting to order at 3:57. A quorum was established.

No amendments were needed to the board contact list.

The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed. Due to not officially approving 2 previous policies up for discussion (due to not having a quorum) Jensen suggested approving the minutes “as written” and then to approve the policies at the current meeting. A motion was made by LeBlanc, with a 2nd by Davis to accept the minutes as written

Concerns from the community as reported by the board. Puppa mentioned the Haunted Library in Mont Belvieu. She said kids loved it. Heard great feedback. She heard from some parents that they would like a less spookier version earlier in the day, and to make it scarier later in the evening. Discussion was also made on the new Mark Huddleston building (old library) and how it’s being used. There were no major concerns about the library.

Jensen discussed the formal approval for the updated Technology Plan and Policy on Privacy, Confidentiality, & Retention. A motion was made by Puppa to approve, with a 2nd by Caldwell.

Under new business, Book delivery service was discussed. Jensen spoke about the need in the community for homebound patrons to receive books/audiobooks (Playaways). Jensen mentioned the dissolved Meals on Wheels program that will soon be revitalized by some other organization. An idea was to collaborate with them to delivery books, or the library can do a pilot program in Anahuac for local patrons in the direct vicinity. Jensen will get more information regarding Meals on Wheels and more discussion will be ready for the February 2023 meeting. LeBlanc made a motion to continue seeking information about the book delivery service, with a 2nd by Puppa.

Jensen gave an update on Nerd Con, 2022. Right at 1,500 people attended. Great feedback, well organized, had a great committee that works year round to make it possible. Many responses from surveys, day of feedback, and feedback via social media.

Vass gave an update on the library’s new updated website and how meeting room reservations will be part of that change. Vass mentioned how much easier it will be for the public to reserve and view amenities for the room. This will be ready for release around January when the new website is ready.

Jensen gave a brief update on Summer Reading 2023. Two planning meetings have taken place to share ideas and brainstorm. The theme is “Camping” and staff will take that any direction they wish.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:41 by Sam Little.

Next meeting is Feb. 14, 2023 in Anahuac.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Jensen, County Librarian