

Library Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
Boyce Ditto Public Library
2300 SE Martin Luther King, Jr. St.
Mineral Wells, TX 76067
(940) 328-7880

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by Chairman Troy Stone. The minutes from the April 12, 2016, meeting were approved with a motion by Lorraine Crutcher, seconded by Fred Danforth, and a unanimous vote.

Attending were Chairman Troy Stone, Library Manager Palin Bree, City Manager Lance Howerton, Fred Danforth, Mary Alyce Buckner (F.O.L.), Richard Buckner, Marilyn Rhodes, Jeri Calcote, Lorraine Crutcher, King Hayes, Coralee Beasley and new board member Lori Schmidtke.

Mr. Howerton gave the city manager's report, reminding the board that the city budget will take a hit due to the loss of \$300,000 to \$500,000 in sales tax revenue as a result of the economic downturn.

There was no Chairman's report.

Mary Alyce Buckner reported for Janice Ellis of the Archive and Digitization Committee, who was not able to attend. The committee plans to assist in unpacking items that were in storage later this month.

Mrs. Buckner said the Friends of the Library cleared over \$500 from their spring book sale, which is their best ever result. They also sold two of the books they had available for silent auction. She stated they appreciate Mineral Wells Center of Life's assistance in storing and delivering books for the sale. The MWCOL also picked up the leftover books and will include them in their own garage sale later.

The Staff Appreciation Luncheon scheduled for May 9, as reported at the last meeting, has been postponed to May 23rd. Arrangements and schedule are still the same for a salad luncheon @ Clark Gardens.

During her Library Manager's report Palin Bree said the luncheon had to be postponed when Garner School scheduled a visit that day. The group visited the local Fossil Park and came to the library for a Dinosaur day. The group of 90 children and 20 adults ate lunch, watched a dinosaur movie, read dinosaur-themed picture books, created a dinosaur headband and competed in a dinosaur roar-off.

Along with her monthly report handout, Bree distributed an article on Top Skills for Tomorrow's Librarians. She said part of the board's duties would be to choose her successor and she hoped they would keep these skills in mind.

Bree said the library is considering dropping late fees and setting a time period, after which the patron would be charged the price of the book. She said her research showed raising fines does not curtail late returns and the amount of fines collected is not worth the time and record-keeping required. She plans to re-write the fine policy and present the revised ordinance for board discussion and approval.

Summer reading registration starts June 2, but Friday, June 3, is the big kick-off day. JJ the Clown will be on hand to entertain the kids while parents complete registration forms. Summer reading programs will be offered for teens and adults, as well as the children. The staff will be in the upcoming Rodeo Parade to promote Summer Reading.

During New Business, Lori Schmidtke asked about extended hours for the library. Bree noted the library is open Tuesday nights and is well-used, but Thursday nights and Saturday afternoons were dropped due to low use. There's also staffing to consider.

Bree said they should be able to tell by October if their traffic has returned to normal (from before the extended closure) because they will have more data by then.

James Pylant will host a DNA & Genealogy program at the library Monday, May 16, @ 6:30 to discuss DNA tests on the market and what genealogists can expect to learn from them. He may also have a new book to promote in the near future.

Fred Danforth made a motion to adjourn and Lorraine Crutcher seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.