

Library Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Boyce Ditto Public Library

2300 SE MLK Jr. Street

Mineral Wells, TX 76067

Attending: Chairman Troy Stone, Coralee Beasley, Jeri Calcote, Richard Buckner, Lori Schmidtke, Christiana Rodriguez-Lazo, Marilyn Rhodes, Mary Alyce Buckner (BDPLFOL), Rachel Lively and Library Manager Louanne Noel.

Mr. Stone called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. The minutes from the May meeting were approved. No City Manager's Report. Mr. Stone introduced new board member Rachel Lively.

Mr. Stone announced his resignation from the board and expressed appreciation to the board. Both the board and Ms. Noel expressed appreciation for his service. Mr. Stone said he would continue his work with the Archives and Digitization Committee until a new person is trained. Joe Dover, another volunteer with this committee, has also resigned.

Mr. Stone explained the committee's role and participation in UNT's Portal of Texas History. They have checked on the upload of photos submitted to the Portal.

Ms. Noel noted she has seen the Weatherford library highlighting their uploaded yearbooks on the Portal and is wondering if our library could do the same. Mr. Stone said some of the yearbooks have been scanned and are already online. The set was previously sent to the Oklahoma Department of Corrections for scanning. He will follow up on progress.

Mrs. Buckner said the Friends of the Boyce Ditto Library group sponsored a pizza party for staff at the end of the Summer Reading program and also supervised movies for the kids. Due to a drop the number of members, they are streamlining their year. They will drop the Christmas appreciation party and send Christmas cards instead. Janice Ellis, the club treasurer, passed away this summer. With a memorial fund of \$775, they will use it to improve library grounds. Due to her passing, they are changing the bank signature cards.

The Friends plan to change their bylaws so board members are not prohibited from being officers in their group.

Ms. Noel praised her staff because they "knocked it out of the park this summer" with the reading program. She said it was the most successful program ever with twice the

enrollment and three times as many visitors to the library. She introduced the board to new staff member Ericka Edwards who came from the Saginaw library.

Ms. Noel said the children's librarian left for another position and the proposed budget cuts the position and its funding. She plans to meet with the budget director with her talking points ready. She pointed out the library is accountable for county residents and found that a larger percentage of them use it compared to city residents, but the county funding agreement hasn't been renewed for 10 years. The library has previously utilized the MET program to fund a 20-hour-a-week position for book shelving and other auxiliary services, but is still looking for someone who meets the criteria of the program and can work within the requirements of the job.

As a side note, Ms. Noel mentioned wanting to improve tween involvement in the library as findings indicate this is the age when we lose them and the library is not seen as a "cool" place to be. We need to work on ways to attract them.

In old business, approval on the draft agreement of the transfer of trust monies to the city was discussed. There is still no progress on the agreement, but Judy Caldwell from the trust did address the City Council on the matter and Ms. Noel said she saw a city attorney speak with her afterwards. Everyone is pleased with the new digital sign. It has created more attention for the library and its offerings.

In new business, Mr. Stone appointed a nominating committee of Mrs. Buckner, Ms. Beasley and Ms. Noel for replacing the chairman. He suggested Vice Chairman Nelda Glover run the next meeting to have an election. The committee discussed alternatives to meeting in the library activity room, but action was tabled until these are investigated.

Ms. Rhodes made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Beasley seconded and the meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.