



**LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
May 12th, 2021**

Present: John Henshell, Chair; Kathleen Allen, Vice-Chair; Sarah Larson; Sara Rajkumar; Mei Wong; Kathleen Perry; Cathy Wasnick; Andrew Love; Brad Schrock; Marc San Soucie, City Council Liaison; Arvin Mirtorabi, Teen Library Council; Glenn Ferdman, Library Director; and Kristin Fidler, Administrative Assistant

Absent: none

Guests: none

Chair John Henshell called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from April 14th, 2021 Meeting:

- Sarah Larson called for the approval of the April 14th, 2021 minutes as written. Brad Schrock SECONDED the motion to approve the minutes. Motion CARRIED.

Partner Reports

Beaverton City Council: Marc San Soucie reported that the budget review is underway with three upcoming meetings for Department updates. The Council will then vote on what to forward from the budget for adoption. The city has seen some budget impacts due to COVID-19 but an influx of federal funds will hopefully off-set decreases in lodging taxes and other revenue streams effected by closures and slow-downs. Plans are still in process for the Community Center to be re-developed into a mixed-use building with affordable senior housing as a component. Sites for the relocation of the shelter are being looked at, and the city is asking Washington County for funds to help build it. The candidate forum for open City Council positions is tomorrow night, and the open City Manager position is down to two final candidates.

Beaverton Library Foundation: Glenn Ferdman reported that the Foundation is currently looking at prioritizing other projects because the .5 FTE position to run the proposed Bookmobile isn't happening this budget round.

New Friends of the Beaverton City Library: Kathleen Allen reports that the New Friends have been very busy focusing on re-defining themselves and looking for additional fund-raising and marketing opportunities. They are also actively recruiting new board members and are doing a lot of outreach. They are excited about moving some of their operations into the Main library building. Advisory Board Chair John Henshell mentioned perhaps inviting the board members from the New Friends to a joint meeting of the two boards.

Teen Library Council : Arvin Mirtorabi reported that the TLC is currently reviewing applications for new members. The Limerick contest was a success with 113 submissions, and the Summer

Reading art contest ends in June. The TLC will host a few in-person, outdoor events/programs this summer including tie-dying, succulent planting, and a leaf casting program. The TLC's podcasts will continue through the summer with the hopes of releasing one new podcast a month.

WCCLS Fine-Free, an update: Glenn Ferdman updated the board about how well things have been going since the elimination of fines county-wide three months ago. Equity was a huge driver of the decision, and over 10,000 users have regained library card access on account of fines being dropped. In general, the response from library users has been overwhelmingly positive, and even though it has only been a short period of time, it is exciting to see a positive impact on the community. We've seen an uptick in circulation and new cards and a decrease in overdue items. Billing notices still go out when patrons keep overdue items too long. No library programs will be affected by going fine-free.

Director's Report: Glenn Ferdman reported that he will be presenting the proposed library budget to City Council on May 24th. The city's Interim City Manager has requested that the Department Heads provide a list of additional items not in the budget for potential Recovery Act Funds. Recruitment continues for two new supervisor positions, and we are currently on-boarding three new Reference Assistants. The library has served over 80,000 patrons since June 2020. Construction continues ahead of schedule on building the new study rooms on the second floor. Everyone has been very happy with the quality of work and how the new rooms blend into the existing architecture. City Council just approved funds for providing all levels of staff with DEI training. Summer Reading program starts in June for kids, teens, and adults. The theme this year is "Reading Colors Your World." The Adult Summer Reading program's theme is "Read to Feed" and it will be raising money for Meals on Wheels. Volunteers are slowing coming back to volunteer on site and we are excited to hopefully expand the number of volunteer opportunities on-site soon.

Future Agenda items: By-laws review for expansion of Vice-Chair responsibilities

Set Date for Next Library Advisory Board Meeting:

- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 9th, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. over the Zoom.gov virtual platform. **(The Advisory Board's June 2021 meeting was cancelled)**

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Glenn Ferdman, Library Director

APPROVED BY:

