

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES  
February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Present: Chuck Wells (KF), Judy Izzo (F.O.L.), Renee Hernandez (KF), Pat Escamilla (Keno), Lois Taysom (Merrill), Katie Walker (Malin), Spider (S.R.), Chris Neterer (Bonanza), Nathalie Johnston (Director), Cindy Williams (Recorder).

Call to order: 12:03 p.m.

Minutes: M/S/Approved.

Branch Reports: Chris reported that the Library email update caused issues with access to old emails. The new storage closet and shelving is helping with organization and there is no more clutter! The Bonanza school teachers are appreciating the Library's online resources. There will be two cooking classes in April and the Spring Break party will be March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Katie reported that there is a Scavenger Hunt in Malin and Merrill. Spring Break activities are planned with planting, murals, and a spring banner. Christa is still working on the Meals on Wheels project.

Lois reported that the Scavenger Hunt is very popular, and kids are searching for a leprechaun.

Spider reported that it has been slow in Sprague River due to the terrible weather. Craft participation has been minimal, and circulation is slow. They are working on S.R.P. and have reorganized the children's section to the back of the library. All large print books have been moved to one section.

Judy reported that the F.O.L. have been reviewing their policies. They will hold their Volunteer Appreciation event on the patio when the weather finally improves. They have several potential new board members coming to the next meeting. The Bookie Joint coordinator has been out for a few months, but everything is going well. The Quarterly meeting is today at 2 p.m. via Zoom and Todd Kepple will give a presentation on Google Maps.

Pat reported that the Teen Book Club is going well and they are participating in crafts and games. The book theme this month is green and Irish writers. They will have movies and games for Spring Break.

Renee will give Nathalie the name of a potential new board member for the future if needed. The video clip Nathalie recommended was very good.

Chuck reported that "The Avoidable War" author Kevin Rudd has been appointed to be the Australian ambassador to the U.S.

Director: Nathalie reported that circulation and attendance are up. Digital and children's use is higher, but adult circulation is lower. Chemult circulation is especially low. Nathalie and Wes met with the Chemult Tourism Association, our landlord, to discuss ways to help increase use. They will help with publicity at the neighborhood laundromat and have talked about the Library at their church

meeting. Several members of the community have stopped by the Library to say hello to our staff. They will install playground equipment when the weather improves and Nathalie has purchased a large open sign.

Staff are busy with S.R.P. planning. April is the last month of Battle of the Books. David is busy visiting schools and has scheduled a Bonanza visit in April, a visit to Conger School. We will have a table at K.C.C. Storytimes are doing great and we have a potential hire for the Teen position. We are waiting to hear from H.R. if she accepted the offer. Lia is doing a great job with adult programming.

Nathalie received the grant for a new HVAC system for Sprague River. She is waiting for the I.G.A. to ask permission from the B.O.C.C. to accept the funding. It will need to be installed before the end of June. Once installed the library can be declared a shelter in place facility for the community.

The county is changing their staff evaluation process. We will now be doing quarterly meetings instead of 3-month, 6-month, and yearly evaluations. Commissioner Minty is meeting one on one with library staff.

The budget meeting is scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:10 a.m. National Library week will be held April 23-29 and on April 11<sup>th</sup> a public proclamation will be read at the B.O.C.C. meeting. Next week Nathalie will ask the board to offer free library card replacements for patrons during National Library Week.

The carpet has been ordered and the contractors will contact Nathalie about the installation schedule when the carpet arrive. The bathroom remodel is waiting for flooring to arrive. The roof is leaking, and maintenance is working with the roofing company to repair the roof.

D.P.I.L. 1753 and 1752 graduated.

Nathalie has been having issues with patrons bringing multiple large bags of their belongings into the library. She is working on reviewing our policies to limit the number and size of bags allowed into the library. She will send the revised policy to staff and the board to review. There has also been issues with patrons bringing food into the library. Drinks are allowed and there are signs stating that no food is allowed. Once the carpet is replaced, she will change the seating arrangements. Nathalie contacted the City Police Department to ask them to send an officer to walk through the building once a day. There have been issues with patrons confronted by drug dealers in the building. Nathalie will discuss with Commissioner Hensley if we can declare the building a drug free zone and the Advisory board suggested the police bring a drug sniffing dog with them to walk through the building.

Nathalie reported that the library will be working on a strategic plan and the county is also working on theirs. There have been no further issues with the bathrooms being locked.

Adjourned: 12:52

Next Meeting: Noon April 19, 2023. In person and Zoom.