

* * * * * ***Minutes Pending Approval*** * * * * *

Long Beach Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes October 12, 2021

Type of Meeting: FY 2021 4th Quarter Open Meeting

Call to Order: 3:01 p.m. by Christine McCummins, LBPL Board President

Others In Attendance: Library Director, Denise Saucier, and Board Members Diane Johnson and Mary Westmoreland. (Board Members Betsy Hertz and Brian Lamar were absent.)

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: Minutes of the July 13, 2021, meeting had no corrections or additions and were approved as distributed.

Old Business

HVAC: The children's wing has been completed and the projected date for the remainder of the work is currently October 14, 2021.

Roof Repair: The roof has been repaired, but not the gutters. Denise said they were given no explanation as to why the gutters were not repaired/replaced.

Budget: Denise said that the budget should have been approved by the Board of Aldermen at the September 7, 2021, meeting, but she does not yet have a copy of it.

Request to Add Classics (in Vietnamese and other languages): Denise advised that she has created a wish list at either Amazon or Barnes and Noble.

Trustee Training: This has still not been rescheduled. Denise will reach out to Lacy with the MLC as soon as possible and get back to us with some potential training dates.

New Business

New Hire: Rachel Bothe' was approved by the Board of Aldermen on September 27, 2021, as a part-time employee. Another part-time employee's last day is October 15th. She has taken a full-time position with the Harrison County Library. A potential replacement, Tessa Grimes, is in the process of applying for this newly vacant position.

Night Out Against Crime: Sponsored by the Long Beach Police Department, this event will be held on October 23rd at the Long Beach Town Green from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The library will set up a booth, pass out flyers (example attached) and bookmarks, and have several activities. These are projected to include solving logic problems with a detective theme, show participants how to make "howlers" from Harry Potter, and possibly sign their names in "fire" like in *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. This will be for all ages and there will also be a book display.

Director's Report

4th Quarter Budget Report: The library stayed within the limitations of the budget allotted for FY2020. (See attached report for detailed breakdown on individual items.)

Department Reports

Circulation Statistics: (Information provided was for August 2021) The total circulation was 2,763 for August 2021 versus a total of 957 for August 2020.

Note: This is a combined total of all materials provided by the library in all departments and of all media types.

Children's Statistics: Children's Librarian, Renee Rayburn, reported that the Summer Reading Program was a success and the second Saturday of the month program with Gulf Coast Wildlife is going well. She shared the attendance statistics with us: September (Box Turtle--13 Children, 7 Adults) and October (Possum--6 Children, 6 Adults). She advised that National Literacy Month is in November and that she is in the process of preparing a calendar with activities geared toward families.

Issues or Concerns

Gazebo Gazette Request: Mary reported that Hunter Dawkins, editor of *The Gazebo Gazette*, would like the Long Beach Public Library to place a weekly write-up/article in the newspaper. It was discussed that Board member Brian Lamar could possibly work with Renee Rayburn to take the monthly article for *The Long Beach Breeze* along with a calendar of LBPL events and create a weekly/bi-weekly contribution. This topic will be revisited at the next Board meeting.

Meeting Room Workday: (Following the meeting, Denise gave the Board a tour of the library, including the new HVAC installation.) The Board discussed possibly having a workday to straighten/clean/rearrange the large meeting room so that it may once again be used for various activities. Denise will get back with us on possible dates. She will also find out the protocol for discarding the old computer equipment, e.g. Do we need approval from the Board of Aldermen?

Friends of the Library: Mary spoke to Gretchen Loftus and she said the group would like to start meeting again and she thought the group would definitely assist in a workday to get the meeting room back in order. Diane suggested that the Friends of the Library could also consider meeting after library hours in the Christian Life Center at the First United Methodist Church in Long Beach.

Free Books: Diane suggested that the books be donated to Louisiana victims of Hurricane Ida. We all discussed plans to redo the book display to look more attractive and clear out the cardboard boxes.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled Board meeting will take place at 3:00 on Tuesday, January 11, 2021.

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary L. Westmoreland, Secretary