

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Library Advisory Board Members

Michelle Evans, Kimberly Seay, Michele Stamps Pritchett, Teresa Stafford, Judy Marquess, Octavio Sanchez, Hadi Dudley, Vira Kousol, and Anna Sharon

Approval of April 5, 2023 Minutes

The group will review the minutes from April 5 at the next meeting that will be held on June 7.

Agenda Items

1. Anna Sharon provided a teen services report
 - a. Teen Volunteers:
 - i. Currently have approximately 85 active teen volunteers
 - ii. Volunteer projects include shelving, children's programming, planting our learning garden, and more
 - iii. Several teen volunteers lead programs for kids, such as book club and chess club
 - iv. Teen volunteers also help with big events – like our GeekCon event
 - b. Teen Program Highlights:
 - i. Partnered with the University of Arkansas' College Access Initiative to provide free college-prep classes
 - ii. Partnered with the Bentonville Police Department to host safe driving classes. Most are teens, but we also invite parents of new drivers, as well as adults who may be new drivers in the United States
 - iii. Our teen book club is growing with an average of 15+ participants each month; discussion is led by one of our Teen Advisory Board members
 - iv. Some other fun teen events include creative writing club, Rubik's Cube competitions, and art workshops
 - c. Coming soon: Summer Reading Program!
 - i. Registration opens May 30th for all ages
 - ii. Teen volunteers assist by running the summer reading desk, signing up countless patrons, and logging reading time/awarding prizes to kids throughout the summer
 - iii. Teens also have a reading program to participate in, log reading time, and win prizes
2. Hadi Dudley gave BPL update report
 - a. 150 Years Celebrations
 - i. Commemorative library card design to be unveiled at GeekCon, Saturday, May 6
 1. Card designed by Ivan Wong, BPL Teen Advisory Board member
 2. Three of the design cards will debut this fall
 3. 2000 cards will be distributed to people who want to trade in existing ones or sign up for a new library card
 - ii. Saturday, May 13th at 2 pm: Still on the Hill folk music concert
 - iii. June/July: City guest readers on Tuesday, story time at 10:30 AM
 - b. Li'l Library in the Park
 - i. Dedicated on Tuesday, April 11 with 150 books to stock the shelves

- ii. Special thanks to Randy Townzen and Don Barnett
 - iii. Received positive feedback and compliments
 - iv. It is already getting a lot of use – many books removed and some donated by community members
- c. Expansion update
 - i. Groundbreaking ceremony attended by 150 people – it was a happy day!
 - ii. Construction: progress report
 - 1. Site work and relocation of all underground utilities have begun
- 3. Library Events: LAB volunteers are needed for festivals and outreach events
 - i. Bentonville GeekCon: Saturday, May 6 at 10 AM – 1 PM
 - ii. For The Love Food Truck: Thursday, June 1st (time TBD)
 - iii. OZ Kids™ Bike & Book Fest: Saturday, July 1st 9 AM-Noon
- 4. Policy updates are pending Library Advisory Board approval at the June meeting. Documents will be distributed on, or before, May 17th
- 5. Judy Marquess provided the Friends of the Library Report
 - a. There were no financial reports for April
 - b. The Teen Library Volunteers will be awarded \$1,000 scholarships. The awardees are Muskan Taori, Nicolle Broni, and Isabella Elkins
 - c. Between Friends, 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10 AM in the Sunroom. The next meeting is on May 17
 - d. Next Book Sale – Children’s and Educators’ Sale July 27 – July 29
 - e. Volunteers needed to sort books at the warehouse in Fayetteville to be used in the sale
- 6. Teresa Stafford provided the Library Foundation Report
 - a. 2023 totals
 - i. Total donations this year-to-date = 134
 - ii. Total dollar this year-to-date = \$1,923,698.53
 - b. Building Fund to date:
 - i. Total amount committed = \$10,946,854
 - ii. Including the \$4.5 million bond money we are at \$15,446,855
 - 1. 92% of the total \$16,750,000 expansion cost
 - c. Additional appeal
 - i. \$11,770.80 designated to Mary Baggett Book Club Lounge
 - ii. Continued funding needed to close the \$1.3 million gap
 - 1. This final stage of capital is always the toughest
 - iii. Ongoing meetings continue with multiple prospective individual and corporation donors
 - d. The next BLF board meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2023.
 - i. We have one new board member: Jana Ecrette, a Bentonville resident / who served on the Tulsa Library Foundation board / a past educator / has been a major donor to our campaign

Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 1pm

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 2:01pm.