

Library Advisory Board Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Attendees: Betsy Batey, Aaron Jones, Nathan Pollet, Judy Marquess, Megan Bolinder, Melissa Godoy, Octavio Sanchez, Chuck Pribbernow, Teresa Stafford, Hadi Dudley, and Michelle Vargas.

Guests: Claude Buckley, Cynthia Cochran, Jackie Lopatofsky, Jessie Wagner, Lauren Muck, Weston Nutt, and Rachel Stuckey Slaton

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

Approval of October 3, 2018 Minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from the October 3, 2018 meeting. Aaron Jones moved, Betsy Batey seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The October 3, 2018 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Hadi began the meeting with introductions.
 - a. Current advisory members and ex-officio members introduced themselves.
 - b. Library Advisory Board applicants introduced themselves.
 - i. Wide range of backgrounds.
2. Hadi gave an overview of the Library Advisory Board and the plan for this appointment.
 - a. The Library Advisory Board is a seven-member board that serves as advisory (as opposed to administrative). Hadi serves as the Director Board chair. Three ex-officio members representing City Council, the Bentonville Library Foundation and the Friends of the Bentonville Library also join the board.
 - i. The position is a volunteer appointment by Mayor and approved by City Council.
 - ii. The appointment is a five-year term of service.
 - iii. The board meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m.
 - b. Hadi gave an overview of the timeframe for the application process.
 - i. Hadi has two more applicants to meet with that could not attend this meeting.
 - ii. Hadi will review with Mayor Bob McCaslin.
 - iii. An offer will be given to a candidate.
 - iv. Once a candidate has accepted the position, all candidates will be notified.
 - v. City Council will officially approve appointment at council meeting on Tuesday, December 11 at 6 p.m.
3. Library Advisory Board members presented questions to applicants for each to answer.
 - a. Aaron Jones asked, "What expertise and perspective will you bring to the library advisory board?"
 - i. Applicants discussed a wide variety in backgrounds including work in fields such as retail, education, libraries, and other non-profits. Educational backgrounds included library sciences, political science, business, accounting and finance, and more. Applicants

- discussed the importance of volunteerism and community service where their personal/professional interests align well with the public library.
- b. Judy Marquess asked, "What is your idea of a public library and its role in the community?"
 - i. Applicants discussed how the public library serves an important role in the community- how the library serves the entire community from helping people find information on basic needs all the way to exploring higher education. They spoke to the library's ability to serve as a "repository of knowledge" for all. Literacy, technology access and lifelong learning were discussed. Many shared their personal experiences at BPL or other libraries as examples of the importance of libraries.
- c. Betsy Batey said, "Tell us about your experience with, or impression of, Bentonville Public Library."
 - i. Personal experiences were shared. Applicants said that BPL is a very engaged library with a wide array of programming. They said they felt we are reaching out into our community and serving needs of the community.
- 4. Hadi gave a brief Library Report.
 - a. Budget goes to City Council on Tuesday, November 13.
 - b. One part-time clerk position open; the schedule is two evenings/ Saturdays.
 - c. Hadi provided attendees with the fall program guides.
- 5. Chuck gave the Friends of the Library Report.
 - a. Fall Used Book Sale best autumn book sale to date.
 - i. Total income was \$3,552. 17% over 2017's fall sale.
 - 1. 35 new memberships and 25 renewals for a total of \$1,013.
 - b. Chuck gave the Friends' October financials.
 - i. Total income was \$5,169 with expenses of \$1,006.
 - ii. Current on deposit is \$30,279.
 - c. Friends have a new Teen Advisory Board representative, Madelyn Bertrand.
 - d. The Friends, in conjunction with the Literacy Council of Benton County, will be holding a special sale February 19-23.
 - i. The Literacy Council and Friends received a donation of a private collection, the Archer Library, totaling 225 boxes of books.
- 6. Teresa gave the Library Foundation report.
 - a. Foundation has received gifts of \$75,192.64 YTD.
 - i. October number of gifts was up 54%.
 - ii. October amount is up 301%, due to a \$25,000 gift.
 - iii. Gifts to the unrestricted fund is up 80%.
 - iv. Foundation received a \$10,000 pledge. Donor will be visiting library and presenting the check on November 14.
 - b. End-of-year appeal being prepared.
 - i. Creating two appeals with unique messaging.
 - 1. The active donor appeal will be mailed to approximately 300 people prior to Thanksgiving.
 - 2. The prospective donor appeal will be sent to 3,500 and will be mailed November 20.
 - c. Donor Appreciation Luncheon scheduled for Sunday, February 10, 2019.
 - i. Author Evin Demirel will be guest speaker.
 - ii. Foundation has a platinum level sponsor who is underwriting the entire event.
 - iii. This is a private, invitation-only event.
 - d. Teresa gave an overview of the Bentonville Library Foundation Board.

- i. The Foundation board is a working board with 20 board seats.
 - 1. At the end of 2018, four current members will be completing terms or stepping down.
 - 2. In January 2019, the board will have eight seats open.
 - 3. An application for a Bentonville Library Foundation Board seat can be found on the foundation's website.
- 7. Hadi discussed Library Advisory Board business.
 - a. Judy's last meeting is December 5.
 - b. Board will take a group photo at December's meeting.
 - c. January's board meeting is January 2. Hadi asked board to consider whether they would like to change the date.

The Library Advisory Board will meet Wednesday, December 5, 2018 in the Haney Family Conference Room.

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 2:05 p.m.