

Library Advisory Board Minutes

Date: Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Attendees: Megan Bolinder, Kim Seay, Judy Marquess, Aaron Jones, Betsy Batey, Nathan Pollet, Octavio Sanchez, Teresa Stafford, Courtney Fitzgerald, Hadi Dudley, Chuck Pribbernow, Sarah Herford and Michelle Vargas. A citizen, Matt Moses, attended the board meeting too.

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Approval of May 2, 2018 Minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from the May 2, 2018 meeting. Aaron Jones moved, Megan Bolinder seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The May 2, 2018 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Courtney Fitzgerald, Circulation Librarian, and Hadi gave the library reports.
 - a. Courtney reported on Bentonville GeekCon, featuring Free Comic Book Day.
 - i. Bentonville GeekCon was held Saturday May 5.
 - ii. GeekCon was very well attended- 2512 people attended, a 100.5% increase over 2017.
 1. Crowds wrapped around the building for the comic book giveaway.
 - iii. BPL received over \$26,000 in-kind donations.
 1. Donations included costumes, food, and other items that were used in the silent auction and for door prizes.
 2. Many of the donations were procured by Melissa Godoy, LAB member.
 - iv. Party on the Porch was a big hit and well attended. Patrons enjoyed cookies, sandwiches, and superheroes!
 - v. Received nothing but positive feedback from attendees.
 - vi. Dalene Schrier will be forming a GeekCon committee. Five individuals have already committed and will begin planning and getting support this fall for next year.
 - vii. Board discussed how to expand event out further in the future.
 - b. Courtney reported on her attendance at National Library Legislative Day.
 - i. Courtney attended National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. with Carolyn Ashcraft of the Arkansas State Library and others.
 1. Courtney is the Legislative committee chair with the Arkansas Library Association. She represents all libraries (public, academic, school, special.)
 - ii. Arkansas has a relatively small group that attended, as some states bring large groups with them to the legislative day.
 - iii. Courtney attended sessions that helped the group prepare for meeting with legislators.
 - iv. Courtney and fellow Arkansans met with legislators and staffers. Courtney reported that everyone was welcoming and supportive.
 1. The group was able discuss such topics as community collaborations, tech card programs, broadband, and e-rate coverage with legislators and staffers.

- v. Courtney was able to tour the Library of Congress.
 - c. Courtney reported on Lisa Wingate author visit.
 - i. As part of the Arkansas State Library's *If All Arkansas Read the Same Book* project, author Lisa Wingate visited and spoke at BPL on June 2.
 - 1. Lisa Wingate's book, *Before We Were Yours* was this year's selection for the project.
 - 2. The visit kicked off the project's author tour.
 - 3. *Before We Were Yours* already has \$1 million in sales. Wingate stated that the book has multiple movie deals and a TV series deal on the table.
 - 4. The author tour will end in Memphis.
 - ii. BPL partnered with Bella Vista Public Library to host the event.
 - 1. Event had standing room only- 147 people attended.
 - 2. Wingate was an engaging, humble speaker and a great storyteller.
 - a. Discussed the book and had a lengthy Q and A session.
 - 3. Barnes and Noble provided the book sales and had over \$1,000 in sales.
 - 4. Octavio Sanchez provided feedback about the Q&A was long and some people could not stay for the book sale and signing.
 - d. Hadi reported on Summer Reading Club.
 - i. Summer Reading Club sign ups have begun.
 - 1. Sign-ups are off to a strong start- adults have surpassed 2017's sign-ups.
 - ii. Hadi passed out Youth and Adult Summer Reading Club brochures.
 - e. Hadi reported that BPL is fully staffed. Currently training a few new hires.
 - f. Hadi reported on the Eden Henry memorial.
 - i. Funds were donated to the Foundation for a memorial for Eden Henry, a young patron that passed away.
 - 1. A bench and plaque will be installed. BPL will host a reception.
2. Hadi led a discussion about Library Service Awards.
- a. The Library Advisory Board is presenting a new award at this year's *Booked for the Evening*, the Emerging Leader award.
 - b. Sarah Herford, Teen Services Librarian, presented her top choices for the award.
 - i. Alyssa- Avid library user. Started volunteering as soon as she was eligible. She is a teen member on the Bentonville Library Foundation board. Alyssa is a member of the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and helps with various programs. She was a winner of the Friends' scholarship. She will be attending the University of Arkansas and majoring in English.
 - ii. Amirtha- Amirtha is a TAB member and this year's TAB president. She volunteers and has led the STEAM program and created most of its content. She is a Friends' Scholarship winner. She was a library employee and helped with Youth Literature Festival. She will be attending the University of Illinois and majoring in Engineering.
 - iii. Paula- Paula is a 2-year TAB member. She led the book discussions and helped create the content for the book clubs. She has the most volunteer hours. She was a Reading Buddy and teen leader for the K-3 reading group. She initiated a STEAM picture book activity. She will be attending UA and plans to serve in the US Coast Guard.
 - c. The board deliberated, and through a ranking vote process, chose Alyssa.
 - d. Board discussed that for future awards they would like to do an interview process with the top candidates.
 - e. The Emerging Leader winner will receive an award. All nominees will have books dedicated to them added to the collection.

- f. The Library's selection for the Distinguished Service Award, Elaine Kerr, was approved by the Library Advisory Board.
- 3. Chuck gave the Friends of the Library Report.
 - a. Chuck discussed the Friends' May financials.
 - i. Income- \$1,966
 - ii. Expenses- \$3,072
 - iii. YTD income was \$12,906 and expenses were \$7,010
 - iv. The checking account currently has \$27,027 with commitments of \$18,363.
 - 1. Currently in the process of reviewing the commitments, as some go back to 2014.
 - b. The Friends awarded four- \$500 scholarships to Bentonville seniors.
 - c. A Scholastic book fair is being held June 6-9. Proceeds will benefit the Children's department.
 - d. Chuck said thank you to the staff for their excellent preparation for Lisa Wingate and mentioned that everything was ready to go when they arrived.
 - e. Received another large donation from ReaderLink- 11 large cases with a mixture of children's and adult titles.
- 4. Teresa gave the Library Foundation report.
 - a. The Foundation has received \$30,000 in cash gifts.
 - b. Two people have applied to be on the Foundation board. They have been interviewed and the voting will take place next week.
 - c. Teresa is working with the predictive analytics project data. The software gives information about philanthropic individuals in the area.
 - d. *Booked for the Evening* is scheduled for September 18, 2018 at Tavola.
 - i. The Foundation will select their service award winner next week.
- 5. The Library Advisory Board will not meet in July or August, unless necessitated by library business.

The Library Advisory Board will meet Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 1 PM in the Tate Haney Conference Room.

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 2:01 p.m.