

Bastrop Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

March 1, 20201

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Members present were President Mary Jo Jenkins, Barbara Clemmons, Jaime McDonald, Jennifer Leisure, Director Bonnie Pierson, and Mayor Connie Schroeder.

Citizen Comments:

There were none.

Staff Report:

Terry Carwell celebrated his 2nd anniversary on February 4, 2021.

Ashley Guerrero celebrated her 7th anniversary on February 4, 2021.

Activities: A new Story Walk installation was delayed by the ice storm.

The winter storm also caused the library to close for 4 days. Staff took calls, suspended fines and due dates and updated patrons on social media and the web site.

The iCloud Mobile Circulation app was launched February 22. It was working, then patrons began calling because they are unable to download the app. Staff has worked with the provider to correct the problem.

Friends of the Library:

There is an abundance of books in the Book Nook. Friends are having a dot sale to clear shelves. The book and plant sale has been rescheduled for September.

Statistical Report:

Several services are seeing increased activity, including appointments for computer use and number of e-books checked out. Door count is increasing each month and web site traffic is also up.

Financial Report:

March is a busy month for reports. The second performance report for the TSLAC CARES grant is due March 8. The TSLAC Annual Report is due March 31. And the city budget planning process begins in March.

Consent Agenda:

The minutes for the February 1, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

Items for Individual Consideration and Discussion:

The Long- Range Plan survey was sent out to 8,000 patrons. The survey had a 24% open rate and 407 responses. 86% of respondents have a library card and 40% visit the library weekly. 65% of respondents say the library is very important to them. Comments from the survey were mostly positive, particularly about the staff. There continues to be dissatisfaction about the non-resident fee as well as misperceptions about using library services without paying the fee. Board discussed options to counteract negative view of library fee. Sally Keinarth volunteered to work with Bonnie Pierson on an information campaign to highlight the value of library services, even considering a \$25 non-patron fee.

Updates:

Bonnie emphasized the positive feedback from patrons received in survey responses. The consensus is that the staff goes above and beyond to be friendly, helpful, remarkable and patrons appreciate the safe operation of the library during the pandemic.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted 

Sally Keinarth, Acting Secretary

Approved 

Mary Jo Jenkins, President