Bastrop Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Call to Order:

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

Members present were Vice President Barbara Clemons, Jamie McDonald, Lesa Neese, Rebecca Bennett, Jennifer Lelsey, Director Bonnie Pierson, and Mayor Connie Schroeder.

Citizen Comments:

There were none.

Announcements:

The Library will be getting a new air conditioning unit tomorrow. Once it is installed, three of the four units will be working. The fourth unit is still on order. Ashley Guerrero returned from maternity leave and has resigned to become the library director at the Martindale Public Library. The Master Naturalists have begun work on the pollinator garden. Director Bonnie Pierson thanked Jamie McDonald and Lesa Neese for their many years of service to the board.

Staff Report:

Activities -

Use of the self-check continues to increase. The Library issued 109 new cards in July. Veronica Nunez was hired as the Executive Administrative Assistant. She is a graduate of the Colorado River Collegiate Academy. The E-rate reimbursement for 2020 has been filed. The books with crafts have become popular. The Library is hosting an event with the ACE program. The Friends of the Library will sponsor part of the non-resident fees for families in the program that do not live in the City.

Friends of the Library –

Plans for the book sale are moving ahead. The plant sale will be held on Saturday only.

Statistical Report –

The total number of volunteer hours in July was 136, much more than in previous months.

Financial Report –

Since October 2020, the Library has issued 397 new non-resident cards and 844 renewals of non-resident cards.

Report on current grants –

The CARES grant is completed. The final report was submitted September 3. The self-check is very popular. Patrons have made many positive comments about it. Since it began in October 2020, there have been 5,519 items checked through it. Although there were some problems initially with the mobile circulation, those have been addressed, and 154 items have been checked or renewed through its use. According to a public survey, the patrons that have used the mobile circulation have
found it very easy to use. Others were eager to try it. Overall, most patrons believe it is an improvement to the Library. The Hancher grant is almost completed. The final report is due at the end of September. The parking lot wireless has become popular. The mobile hot spots are in high demand, with all of them being checked out almost all of the time. All the related forms have now been translated to Spanish.

Consent Agenda:

The August 2 minutes were approved with two corrections: “Hanscher” should be “Hancher” and “Jaime McDonald” should be “Jamie McDonald.”

Items for Individual Consideration and Discussion:

Jennifer Leisur has secured a performance by a cellist for the Holiday Open House. The Library team has met and decided to purchase pre-packaged cookies again this year as a health precaution. They are still working on a plan for the graham cracker houses.

Updates:

There were none.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Rebecca Bennett, Secretary

Approved

Mary Jo Jenkins, President