

ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 4, 2008, Corrected

The Abilene Public Library Board met in the Conference room of the Library at 4:00 P.M., Monday, August 4, 2008. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: John Williams (Chairman), Robert Carleton (Vice Chairman), Stan Chapman, Maryanna Harrell, Debra Lillick, Dennis Regan, David Scott, Joe Specht, and Ginna Sadler.

Board Members Absent: Bryan Scalf

Others Attending: Tony Neitzler (Assistant Director of Community Services), Ricki Brown (City Librarian), Alyssa Crow (Librarian I), and Kim St. Clair (Library Administrative Assistant II)

Media present: None

Dr. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. a quorum was present. Dr. Williams asked for any correction or changes to the minutes of February 4, 2008. He asked for a vote to accept the minutes as presented. The vote passed with John Williams, Robert Carleton, Stan Chapman, Maryanna Harrell, Dennis Regan, Joe Specht, and Ginna Sadler accepting.

Ms. Brown began her report with introductions of Mockingbird Branch professional staff members Anne Ellis, promoted to branch manager and Janet West, newly hired Librarian I. Ms. Brown then gave the Board an update on the progress on the Mockingbird Branch. There is a delay for the opening due to the re-plating of the property. The self-check and security system have been selected and this will be the library's first installment into RFID technology. She also reported that the sidewalk and curb work had been completed at the Main Library.

The Summer Reading Club did not experience the overcrowding at the Young Audience Programs this year due to groups not attending. We attribute that to the high gas prices. Ms. Brown then distributed the Annual Report to the Texas State Library for FY 2007.

The Library's budget, as submitted, is now awaiting approval by the City Council. This budget does include the increases in staff salaries, supplies and materials as planned for the Mockingbird Branch.

Ms. Sadler gave the Friends liaison report. The main focus of her report was devoted to the upcoming West Texas Book and Music Festival which will be September 22nd thru 27th. The week will be filled with events from the Brown Bag Luncheon talks to the Cookbook Gala which is sold out. The featured chefs this year will be Tom Perini, Rebecca Rather, and Marie Hejl Saba. The week long events will conclude with the free concert at the Paramount with entertainment from Victoria Moore, Kina Lankford, Amanda Dunn and Terri Hendrix with Lloyd Maines on Friday evening at 7:30 PM. There are still tickets available for the Boots & Books Luncheon on Saturday. It's being catered this year by Sharon's BBQ and Catering. Saturday workshops will include the Texas Ranger Panel with Joaquin Jackson, Elmer Kelton, Mike Cox and Don Graham and Texas Women Authors: Fiction, Fun & Romance with Kathy Patrick, Jodi Thomas and the Dixie Cash sisters, Jeffery McClanahan and Pam Cumbie. There will also be a Self-Publishing Workshop featuring several local authors. The

Hall of Texas Authors on Saturday will run from 9 AM until 3 PM with the entire event ending with the West Texas Gospel Hymnfest from 3-4 PM.

A report was given for Tremain Jackson, who couldn't be there, by Alyssa Crow who is the Children's Librarian from the South Branch. Ms. Crow's report highlighted the Teen activities that have been well received. She explained about the Library's presence on My Space, U-Tube and Flicker which were begun last November. Podcasts include talks about the Library's programming and one entitled "Library Talk". The podcasts are done twice weekly and are all free. Most of these are produced at the South Branch.

Ms. Crow also explained about the Children's Outreach Services to daycares and other groups. She also shared with the Board the highlights of 10th Anniversary Birthday Party event for the South Branch that was held this year. During the fall the Children's departments at both locations will again be very involved with in-school registration programs that will begin in September.

GINNA SADLER also mentioned that there are still volunteer opportunities available for the West Texas Book and Music Festival should anyone on the Board be interested.

The meeting concluded with many comments on the upcoming exciting Fall events. Dr. Williams then adjourned the meeting at 4:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim St. Clair
Library Administrative Assistant II