

## **ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

### **February 02, 2009**

The Abilene Public Library Board met in the Activity room of the Mockingbird Branch Library at 4:00 P.M., Monday, February 02, 2009. A quorum was present.

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

Board Members Absent: Bryan Scalf, Debra Lillick

Others Attending: Mike Hall (Director of Community Services), Tony Neitzler (Assistant Director of Community Services), Ricki Brown (City Librarian), Anne Ellis (Librarian II), Kim St. Clair (Library Administrative Assistant II), Kelley Messer (Attorney with City Legal Dept.) and Brice Hopkins (Intern with the City Legal Department from HSU).

Media present: None

Dr. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. a quorum was present. Dr. Williams asked for any correction or changes to the minutes of November 3, 2008. He asked for a vote to accept the minutes which passed with John Williams, Robert Carleton, Dennis Regan, Stan Chapman, Maryanna Harrell, Joe Specht, and Ginna Sadler accepting and no one opposing.

Ms. Brown began her report with the upcoming events. The Friends of the Library will have a retreat on February 11<sup>th</sup> that will be facilitated by Dr. Gary McCaleb. The theme will be "Where do we go from here?" Ms. Brown also mentioned that she, John Pecoraro and Alice Specht will attend Texas Library Association Legislative Day on February 25<sup>th</sup> in Austin to visit with our legislature representatives. She plans to stress the importance of the Loan Star Library Program and System Grant funding. System funding provides for our on-line Homework Tutorial service

Dr. Williams then asked for nominations for the offices of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Library Advisory Board. After some discussion Mr. Specht proposed a motion to re-elect the current slate of officers with Dr. Williams as Chair and Rob Carleton as Vice-Chair. Ms. Sadler seconded the motion. Dr. Williams asked of a show of hands to approve this motion. All present which included John Williams, Robert Carleton, Dennis Regan, Stan Chapman, Maryanna Harrell, Joe Specht, and Ginna Sadler voted to approve with no one opposing.

Ms. Sadler gave the Friends liaison report. She was thrilled to report that the Grand Opening for the Mockingbird Branch was extremely well attended by approximately 2,000 people in spite of the extreme wind and cold of the morning. She reported all ages were in attendance. She said she is very proud of what the Friends of the Library and the City have accomplished and is pleased to call this beautiful facility "Our Library". Several comments were made during the discussion that praised the co-operative effort that it took to bring this project to fruition and that all groups should be very proud of their hard work to bring about such a good thing for the people in this community of the City of Abilene. Ms. Brown added that the Friends of the Library and the Hispanic Leadership Council were responsible for the refreshments and entertainment by a clown, a magician and a

string group from Abilene High school for the opening. There were also many donations from throughout the City for door prizes that were given away.

Anne Ellis then gave a report for the Mockingbird's Branch first month of service. She stated that the door count for opening day was 2,012 and at the initial opening 400-500 people were present. She added that the branch has many programs including story time, outreach to daycare centers and afterschool programs. She indicated that many middle school and high school age children come to the library after school to use the computers and work on their homework. She said the Mockingbird Branch issued 687 new library cards in January. She also reported that many library users of the past have come in and reinstated their borrowing privileges.

After many positive comments in the discussion during and following Anne Ellis' report, Rob Carleton motioned that the Library Board should put forth an official commendation to the Friends of the Library, City staff and Library staff for a job well done. Mr. Regan seconded the motion and all present voted to approve including John Williams, Robert Carleton, Dennis Regan, Stan Chapman, Maryanna Harrell, Joe Specht, and Ginna Sadler.

Dr. Williams then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting with a tour of the facility. The meeting adjourned as motioned by Ms. Sadler and seconded by Mr. Carlton at 4:40 PM with those wishing to remain for a tour of the new Mockingbird Branch facility until approximately 5 PM. There was a reminder that the next Board Meeting is May 4th, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim St. Clair  
Library Administrative Assistant II