

**ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 6, 2012**

The Abilene Public Library Board met in the Conference Room of the Main Library at 4:00 P.M., Monday, February 6, 2012. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Robert Carleton (Vice Chairman), Carrie Casada, Stan Chapman, Dennis Regan, Joe Specht and Nancy Stephenson.

Board Members Absent: John Williams (Chairman), Julie Barcroft, Debra Lillick, and Ginna Sadler

Others Attending: Ricki Brown (City Librarian), Larry Johnson (Interim Director of Community Services), Lesli Andrews (Interim Assistant Director of Community Services), and Kim St. Clair (Library Administrative Assistant II).

Media present: None

Mr. Carleton called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. a quorum was present. Mr. Carleton asked for any corrections or changes to the minutes of August 1, 2011. The minutes were approved as submitted with Robert Carlton, Carrie Casada, Stan Chapman, Dennis Regan, Joe Specht and Nancy Stephenson voting approval.

Ms. Brown began the Director's Report by introducing Nancy Stephenson and Carrie Casada as new members of the Library Board. After a round of introductions from all present she began her director's report. A new class format is being introduced this week called "Book a Librarian" which allows for 30 minutes of uninterrupted one on one time with a librarian. Patrons may ask for specific help on any topic they are interested in obtaining assistance with. This new class will replace the other computer related classes we were offering. The Board was invited to attend a NCCIL co-sponsored program featuring the Fantastic World of Dan Yaccarino on Saturday February 11th. Children all over the world know Yaccarino from a 25 year career in children's publishing (30+ books), television (PBS programming) through art illustrations, animation and character design. Ms Brown promised this is an inspiring program for all ages.

MS. Brown reported that the Main Library had a gas leak back in November that required running new gas piping to the basement for heat and hot water. Mockingbird Branch also recently had their hot water heater replaced.

A brief update was given on the cessation of the State Contracts by Ms. Brown. She reported the ILL contract has terminated as of November 30<sup>th</sup> and duties have been assumed by library staff although on a much smaller scale. There are some transitional issues mostly with the loaning software that may drive us back to using OCLC World Cat services.

The Friends of the Library gave the library \$10,000 at the close of 2011 to purchase digital audio and e-books for the Overdrive service. This past Christmas a great number of people received e-reading devices as gifts and the library's circulation of this format has tripled in the most recent service month. She indicated this format is evolving and it is interesting to watch it unfold. Publishers hold all the controls with Harper-Collins having the most restrictive licensing.

Ms. Brown gave an update on the Strategic Plan put in place in 2005. She passed out a document that highlighted all the progress that has been made since the adoption of the plan. Some items include:

- Moving the magazines to the basement to control noise on the first floor
- Creation of a teen area
- Branch development progressed by opening the Mockingbird Branch
- Marketing is done frequently although not to a set plan
- On-line calendar of events added to the Website
- Constantly evaluation our collection for materials needing to be retired for collection development
- Children's outreach with babies through teens keeping our children's staff on their toes including partnering with the Abilene Arts Council for CALF (Children's Art Literacy Festival), a Dr. Sues Festival.
- Public access computers continue to be in very high demand but we have added to our online databases to include Chilton's Auto Repair Manuals with remote access.

Mr. Carleton gave a report on work of the Friends of the Library Board. Mr. Carleton provided an update for the plans for the upcoming book sale by informing the Board that he again is Co-Chairing the event with Bob Milstead and they have proceeded to redesign an organization chart to delegate key areas of the sales event. He said they would be calling on members of both Boards to fill these key posts for the event. He mentioned the Spring Author Series is coming up and four authors have been slated.

Ms. Brown then explained the request to reschedule the next Board Meeting in May to a different time. She would not be here to attend due to a vacation she is taking. After some discussion it was decided the next Board Meeting will be held on April 2, 2012 at 4 PM.

Mr. Carleton reminded everyone the dates for the Book Sale are June 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carleton then concluded the meeting at 4:50 PM.



Kim St. Clair  
Library Administrative Assistant II