**ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**February 3, 2014**

The Abilene Public Library Board met in the Conference Room of the Main Library at 4:00 P.M., Monday, February 3, 2014. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Robert Carleton (Chairman), Debra Lillick (Vice-Chair), Carrie Casada, Stan Chapman, Patricia Nail, Dennis Regan, and Joe Specht

Board Members Absent: Tiffany Fink and Ginna Sadler

Others Attending: James Childers (Director of Community Services), Lesli Andrews (Acting City Librarian), Janis Test, (Librarian II), Janet Bailey(Librarian II), Anne Ellis, (Librarian II) and Kim St. Clair (Library Administrative Assistant II)

Media present: None

Mr. Carleton called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. There was a quorum present. He asked for any corrections to the minutes of August 5, 2013. After some discussion the minutes were approved as presented by show of hands by Robert Carleton, Debra Lillick, Carrie Casada, Stan Chapman, Patricia Nail, Dennis Regan, and Joe Specht.

Mr. Carleton thanked all the staff on the handling of matters concerning Ricki Brown’s death and memorial service. He would like to commend: Janis Test, Marie Noe, Anne Ellis, Janet Bailey, Tremain Jackson, Dennis Miller and Kim St. Clair.

Mr. Childers then addressed the Board and reported that Lesli Andrews will be the interim Acting City Librarian with day to day operations handled by Janis Test. Transition will run smoothly with the great key staff in place. Human Resources will begin the search for a new City Librarian that will extend nationwide. Postings will be done at the professional organization sites for Texas Library Association, American Library Association and Public Library Association. He stressed that their goal is to find the best candidate and intends to move as quickly as possible. The selection of final candidates will be introduced the Friends of the Library Board and this Board for their input. Logistics of how this will happen have yet to be worked out, but he hopes to have a new manager in place in the next 3-4 months. He encourages the Board to share information of a good candidate they might know. He is very excited about the prospect and process with the vision for find the right person to build and carry forward the great ground work laid in place by Ricki Brown.

Mr. Childers presented the Honorable Mention Branding Award won by the Friends of the Abilene Public Library from Texas Library Association by wrapping Abilene Transit busses with the Adult Reading theme “Novel Destinations”. He praised the Friends of the Library for their great cooperation with staff and other civic divisions to make this happen.

Janet Bailey then gave a presentation of the new subscription streaming service called “Hoopla”. After some discussion the Board was very pleased to see the library immersing further into digital content.

Lesli Andrews then gave the City Librarian’s report and thanked Janet Bailey and Janis Test for all their help during this transition. She gave information on the TLA District 1 meeting held here and how again the library participated in the HEB Feast of Sharing. In November Kim St. Clair received a 30 year service award. In February the adult programming of the library is branching out with a new month long brown bag program called “Conversations with Interesting People” that will highlight area people sharing unique and interesting aspects about their lives and careers.

Ms. Casada gave a report on the upcoming Texas Author Series held between March 3 and April 21st. This series is held at noon and a light lunch may be purchased for a $5.00 donation. This year the programs include: historian Dan Utley; San Antonio novelist Leila Meacham; the executive director of the Texas Forts Trails Margaret Hoogstra; noted photographer Laurence Parent; Hardin-Simmons University professor and poet Bob Fink; and concluding with Abilene author, photographer, civic leader and world traveler Bill Wright.

The Friends of the library made the purchase of the new blinds seen in this building and in the Mockingbird Branch Building. Plans are to support more staff going to TLA this year and skipping the PLA Conference.

Ms. Casada announced that Rob Carleton was the Friends of the Library’s Volunteer of the Year for 2013. She mentioned that the Friends have planned a trip to the Midland County Public Library in the near future.

Mr. Carleton announced plans to have the Board’s retreat next month and indicated he has asked Edward Smith to give a presentation. After some discussion it was agreed to hold the workshop on March 3rd, 2014 at 4 PM. He would also like to encourage members of the Board to attend the Texas Library Association Conference in early April with information about the conference being found at [WWW.TXLA.ORG](http://WWW.TXLA.ORG). Janis Test also quickly reminded the Board about the visit from the Texas State Librarian on March 17, 2014 and that he is very interested in meeting with local area citizens interested in Library Advocacy.

Mr. Carleton adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim St. Clair

Library Administrative Assistant II