

ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2015

The Abilene Public Library Board met in the Conference Room of the Library at 4:00 P.M., Monday, September 14, 2015. A quorum was present.

Board Members present: Rob Carleton (Chairman), Clint Buck, Carrie Casada, Tiffany Fink, Patricia Nail, Dennis Regan, and Joe Specht

Board Members absent: Debra Lillick (Vice-Chairman), Stan Chapman and Ginna Sadler

Also attending: James Childers (Director of Community Services), Lesli Andrews (Assistant Director of Community Services), Chace Craig, (Assistant City Attorney), Janis Test (Librarian III), Janet Bailey (Librarian II), Kim St. Clair (Administrative Assistant II),

Media present: None

Mr. Carleton called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Janis Test gave a brief explanation of Lori Grumet's absence due to the birth of her new grandchild.

Mr. Carleton then introduced, new Board Member, Clint Buck. Kim St. Clair, Notary, then issued his "Statement of Appointed Officer" and the "Oath of Office" for service on the Library Advisory Board. Mr. Buck then gave a brief biography of his educational and work background adding that it is an honor to part of Libraries and they are very important to us.

Mr. Carleton then asked for any corrections to the minutes of May 5, 2015. Several errors were noted for correction. Mr. Carleton then asked for any corrections to the minutes of June 22, 2014. A spelling error was noted. A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was submitted by Dennis Regan and seconded by Carrie Casada. A show of hands for approval of the minutes as corrected was given by Rob Carleton, Clint Buck, Carrie Casada, Tiffany Fink, Patricia Nail, Dennis Regan, Ginna Sadler, and Joe Specht.

Lesli Andrews began the Librarian's Report by updating the Board on the South Branch Library project. The lease has been signed and executed. The contract between the Friends of the Library and the Architect has been completed. Additional construction contract for the rear entrance is pending. Charrettes were attended by 104 people. The committee did a wonderful job providing refreshments and seating for the presentations.

Ms. Andrews then updated the Board on the Strategic Plan process and the need to narrow down the wealth of information provided by the consultant, Dr. Julie Todaro. Identifying three to five key areas of focus will be the next step. Carrie Casada commented it is important to have a plan in place and the process is costly. Mr. Regan added the section on the surveys consists of 171 pages and is very detailed.

The roofing project is underway as noted by the noise from the workman during the meeting. Shelving has been donated to Global Samaritan which ends the leased space for storage at a cost of \$3,000 annually. A plan for a "Makers Space" is progressing slowly in the workroom in the basement here at the Main Library. The Teen Area Expansion is progressing as well.

Janet Bailey gave a brief report on the Dyess P-4 Project. The Library has progressed approximately 2/3 of the work accepting approximately 20,000 items that are targeted for the expanded South Branch. Mr. Regan commented that perhaps volunteers to assist in processing the materials to be added to the collection. Janis Test added staff is working on Volunteer guidelines with a broadened scope to allow volunteers to work on projects such as this.

Lesli Andrews updated the Board on the 2016 proposed budget and indicated most of the additional increase in funding is due to the relocation and expansion of the South Branch Library. Ms. Fink asked if the new budget had an increase in costs for benefits for employees. Mr. Carleton asked about insurance coverage for Boards. Ms. Andrews informed the Board that she knew of no additional costs for benefits in the budget and the City is Self-Insured and provided coverage to all Boards and Commissions.

Ms. Casada then began her Friends of the Library report by sharing progress of fundraising for the South Branch Project with 1.3 Million being raised. She added that this is all very exciting to have Public/Private collaboration to make a huge benefit for the community.

The Book Festival is nearing with an added Brown Bag on Friday, September 18, 2015 with the Author of "Friday Night Lights", Buzz Bissinger, giving a presentation. The following week promises to be full of events with varying genres to please a wide range of interest. She hopes to see everyone there.

Mr. Carleton spoke to the Board stating relative to South Branch, how important it is for this group to be as informed as possible and this group's input is very important. Misinformation is the most prominent product of lack of information and the more facts known going forward is the main defense. Funding levels of 2 Million or more would be ideal and would be evident of the outpouring of community support for the project.

Mr. Regan agreed and feels the community sees this as a much needed project by reaching areas further South and East supporting the growth in the community.

Old business item of Collection Development Policy will be on hold until possibly the November meeting.

Mr. Carleton asked about how soon the South Branch would close for the move.

Ms. Andrews stated some firm dates have to be set with construction before discussion would be open for the timing of the move. At some point we would have to close South Branch in order to pack up and move prior to opening at the new location. There will be a lot of discussion and planning to come as more firm dates are known.

There being no further information to be discussed, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Fink and seconded by Mr. Regan

Mr. Carleton adjourned the meeting at 4:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim R. St. Clair
Library Administrative Assistant II