

**ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 1, 2017**

The Abilene Public Library Advisory Board met in the Conference Room of the Library at 4:00 PM, Monday May 1, 2017. A quorum was present.

Board Members present: Dennis Regan (Chair), Robert Carlton, Ginna Sadler, Joe Specht, Debra Lilick, Michael Carrisalez, Dennis Billig

Board Members absent: Clint Buck (Vice Chair), Tiffany Fink, Stan Chapman, Carrie Casada

Also attending: Kelley Messer, Assistant City Attorney; Leslie Andrews, Community Services Director; Lori Grumet, City Librarian; Jennifer Rodman, Dyess Librarian; Marnie Boyers, Library Administrative Assistant

Media present: None

Mr. Regan called the meeting to order at 4:12 PM.

Introduction of new board member – Mr. Dennis Billig, Deputy Commander 7<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron, Dyess Air Force Base.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as corrected.

Library Director's Report – South Branch numbers circulation is up 7.9%. Door count was at 228,825 for the year. Circulation has been down since 2009, minus a few bumps here and there and when Mockingbird first opened. Last year first year overall numbers were up. Still going strong. South Branch door count at the end of March was 108,068, reference count was 9,949 questions answered, 8,784 computer users, 144 children's programs with 2617 children attendees and 4,376 adult attendees. There were 82,000 digital circulations. South was worth all the work and waiting. It couldn't have been done without the Friends. There has been some vandalism in the women's restroom already. Teens have been abusing the furniture and the walls. Some groups have been banned from the library for a few months. Mr. Regan suggested the board members take an hour or so now and then and sit in the teen room to help discourage the bad behavior.

TLA conference - the friends paid for three librarians to go. Jennifer Rodman was able to attend as well. Ms. Grumet attended a genealogy seminar there among others. She has taken the Genealogy department at Main under her wing and has moved staff around and with Heather Carter is whipping the collection into shape. Janis Test presented at a special Tea at ALA to honor the first female state librarian Elizabeth West, Janis' Great Aunt. At the TLA district meeting, Ms. Grumet became the District 1 Chair. District 1 encompasses all of the Big Country. Ms. Grumet mentioned a seminar she went to on eliminating overdue fines in an effort to increase customer service. The legislative update from the State Librarian said state revenue is down and legislative priorities are shifting to social services.

Ms. Grumet attended the Texas Municipal Librarians meeting that was looking to put together a program in October for Texas Municipal Week. They are wanting a city manager who is pro-library. Ms. Grumet nominated Robert Hanna. Staff attended a general session and our library received a \$2,500 dollar grant from the Texas Book Festival Grant for the business center at Mockingbird.

Dyess Project updates – Jennifer Rodman and Lori Grumet are meeting regularly every week. Dyess has scheduled story times, and APL has staff credentialed to go on base if needed. Staff are still attending Right Start twice a month and distributing bibliophiles. The MOA has been approved, and is pending the Commander's signature. Dyess has officially been accepted into the ALC.

The makerspace will have an informal opening this Friday May 5<sup>th</sup> between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Saturday the makerspace will be presented to the public at Libcon.

Tim Lilick President of the Friends of the Library gave an update. He spoke of the author series the Friends hosted. He mentioned again about sending four librarians to TLA this year. He also said the Friends paid for Libcon prizes this year. The Friends also bought some shelving for South Branch and Main's new staff room furniture and paid to repair the ice maker. Still processing donations for the book sale. The Friends are participating in "Abilene Gives" this year.

Advocacy Discussion – the state legislature is Mr. Regan's focus right now. We have learned SB802 is dead.

Dennis Regan encouraged everyone to read the board manual. Each board member should be visible, wear their name tag, and use social media and word of mouth. Develop an individual rapport with the branches. Let administration and the board chair know about any issues you may find.

Creation Station - Review of user policy. Creation Station User policy approved as amended. Registration process is in place. There will need to be controls in place. Ms. Grumet introduced a fee schedule for approval. Ms. Sadler left the meeting and a quorum was no longer available. Fee schedule was shelved until next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

The next scheduled Advisory Board Meeting is August 7, 2017 at 4 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marnie Boyers*

Marnie Boyers, Library Administrative Assistant