

ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2018

The Abilene Public Library Advisory Board met in the Meeting Room of the South Branch Library at 4:00 PM, Monday May 21, 2018. A quorum was present.

Board Members present: Dennis Regan (Chair), Clint Buck (Vice Chair), Sylvia Leal, Beth Reeves, Carrie Casada, Fred Patao

Board Members absent: Joe Specht, Dorothy Davidson, James McGee

Also attending: Kelley Messer, Assistant City Attorney; Lori Grumet, Library Director; Chris Gibson, Assistant Community Services Director; Marnie Boyers, Library Administrative Assistant

Media present: None

Mr. Regan called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

Library Director Lori Grumet led a discussion over the American Library Association's principles and borrowing restrictions. She recounted her attendance at the Texas Library Association's program. One of the programs covered the rights of minors under the first amendment. By restricting materials being checked out to minors, we are violating their first amendment rights. At this library we are censoring material for children and we do not have the right to do that. Lori put together a packet of materials to present to Robert Hanna, the City Manager about this issue and he stated that as long as we put a provision on library applications that states that all patrons regardless of age have full access to all materials in the library. The library does not release information on materials checked out. There has to be an authorization in writing on the account and the patron must show ID in order to access their children's account. Access issues have come up in regards to library card use. If we suspect someone is using another patron's card, we will shut the card down and verify with the card owner if they gave permission for that person to use it.

Library Directors Report – Summer Reading starts June 1st. It starts June 2nd at Dyess. The program is called Libraries Rock. At the libraries we log books read. The Base logs minutes read. We give out prizes for books read and programs attended. The library partnered at the Dyess air show last week. Some updates at the Main Library – Deborah Tarsiewicz is now a librarian. Amy Watterman was a new graduate last week and is our new Reference librarian. She replaces Ann Mount. We have had the basement carpets shampooed three times. Painting on the basement columns is winding down. Painted the study room. We moved some shelving in reference. Twelve chairs were removed because they were too dirty to clean and too expensive to reupholster. Paula Hughes retired unexpectedly. Lea Turnacliff was promoted to full time Library Assistant. We promoted Richard Provan to Library Assistant I PT. Our volunteer Amanda Reeves – is now our new PT library page. We have partnered with the West Texas Homeless Network because we have lots of homeless at the library. We had a meeting at the Betty Hardwick Center. We purchased a new film fiche reader, which replaced an old non-functioning Minolta. It can convert slides to digital images. Lori presented a slideshow of old library photos she converted from slides to show everyone. Denis Regan asked about the Makerspace and the hours it's available. Lori stated the Makerspace is opening up hours because we have an employee from MET, Inc. working in it. Anyone wishing to use the Makerspace can take a quick orientation to be able to use it. LibCon had more attendees than last year. Numbers aren't in yet. We changed the date so we were not in competition with the Air Show or graduation. We have been approached to host the Abilene-type Scripps Spelling Bee at Abilene Main Library.

Friends of the Library report – Book Sale Chair Tim Bench gave the update. Sale preparations going well. Only a few glitches. Donations are up over last year. The sale is June 14th through the 17th at the Convention Center. There are

volunteer opportunities available to sort, setup, or cashier if anyone is interested. The Friend's Board elected to not have the West Texas Book Festival due to Glen Dromgoole retiring and no one stepping into his place. Still up in the air.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 PM.

The next scheduled Advisory Board Meeting is August 6, 2018 at 4 P.M at the Mockingbird Branch location.

Respectfully submitted,

Marnie Boyers

Marnie Boyers, Library Administrative Assistant