

**ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 4, 2019**

The Abilene Public Library Advisory Board met in the Conference Room of the Main Branch Library at 4:00 PM, Monday February 4, 2019. A quorum was present.

Board Members present: Clint Buck (Vice Chair), Fred Patao, Dorothy Davidson, Christine Curtis-Carr, Beth Reeves, and James McGee

Board Members absent: Joe Specht, Lesli Andrews, Sylvia Leal, James McGee, Carrie Casada, Joe Chavira

Also attending: Lori Grumet, Library Director; Chris Gibson, Assistant Director of Community Services; Stanley Smith, City Attorney; Linda Camacho, Library Administrative Assistant

Media present: None

Mr. Buck called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

**Director's report** – Facility upgrades - new carpet is being installed and finished on the first floor of Main library. We are installing square carpet tiles for easier replacement in the future. Staff will spend the next two weeks putting everything back into its home location. The last time we replaced carpet was in 2002. Ms. Grumet expressed her thanks to ACU for the loan of the shelf movers.

The Mockingbird branch exterior doors open correctly, but the external door opens one way, and the internal door another. One panel doesn't move and people crash into the door. It needs to open the same way the exterior doors do. City council has graciously awarded us funding to replace the door. The bid process has been engaged. Safety closing stops will be required on the doors to be comply with ADA code.

The City Council has allowed the Library to purchase a new microfiche reader. It matches the first one bought last year with operating funds. Another reader is coming and this one will be courtesy of our remaining grant funds with the Abilene Library Consortium.

Main Library will soon have the exterior windows resealed and the rock replaced with new tile. The seals and caulking have deteriorated and when it rains water seeps through the faux rock around the base. It then it drips through to the basement. This is not a desirable situation as we have a lot of items downstairs that we want to protect and take care of. The City Council has funded this project and the Facilities Department has hired a consultant to prepare the specifications for bid. By repairing the mosaic tile exterior and repairing all the underlayment and waterproofing all the backing, these repairs should hopefully last another 60 years.

**Abilene Heritage Square Update** - The Abilene Heritage Board met last month. The Ricky Brown award was given to Edward Smith of the Library Consortium. Eddy is the Library Chair for A.H.S and runs a committee on what the library needs. The 501c3 certification is being held up by the IRS furlough, so fundraising has halted for the time being. Ms. Grumet will update the Board as she gets more information.

At the last meeting, there were some focus groups conducted by the architecture firm of Rick Weatherl and Associates. They had two focus groups at the Grace Museum for a total of 33 people attending. There was good community input in what they would like to see in the remodeling of Lincoln Middle School, such as adding a 60,000 sq. ft. library to the

campus, and refurbishing the auditorium. Library staff have met with the consulting architect Maureen Arndt from 720 Design. She has come up with plans based on the concept of “architecture equals flexibility.” They discussed staffing, shelving with casters, and how fast technology moves, and how adaptability is important. Ms. Grumet will update the Board as she gets more information.

**Dyess Air Force Library Update** - Fred Patao is giving the update. Approval was given for \$175,000.00 to do a modern bookstore physical layout. There will be a mini grand opening. Jennifer Rodman is the Library Director at Dyess. The new space is going from 3000 sq. ft. to 9000 sq. ft. We hope open on Aprils 1st. Mr. Patao will share the invitation with Ms. Grumet. We have partnered with the youth, which is celebrating the month of the Military Child Education Coalition and they provide lots of free resources. We will have a proclamation signing. Mr. Patao can get base access for those of you who would like to help with this. Ms. Rodman has seen an increase of children coming to children’s storytime. She is using robotics kits for the programs. A patron is getting information together for a Friends of Dyess library group.

**Agreement with AISD** - District Partnership activity - Since we started with the program in September, we have circulated a total of 2194 items. 186 are hoopla digital items, 58 overdrive, and one is an electronics resource in-house. All the rest have been physical books. The district has 10,510 students in the program. They have access to the online library catalog and can select delivery of physical materials to their home room. So far from the AISD campus group, two circulations total from the High School. Middle school students have borrowed 303 items. The elementary schools have borrowed the most. The most prolific users are from Bonham Elementary and Mann Middle schools. An issue we are having is young people are checking out the materials, but not returning them. The ALC packages and delivers the books to the individual students to their campus, but come the first of May we will cut off campus delivery. We will not continue our summer delivery program as too many are not returning their books. The Rotan ISD superintendent has purchased 83 library cards for his students to use. They are more likely to use the digital material because of a long drive from Rotan.

Our summer reading program will include the use of student ID#’s as a library card through the end of summer. The AISD summer food program will include Mockingbird Library as a meal site this year and needs volunteers. The Library is part of the Hunger Coalition of Abilene and they are looking into bridging the meal gap between the end of summer program and the beginning of the semester.

**Election of Board** - Election and Nomination of Board Chair and Board Vice Chair. Duties and Bylaws were read by Ms. Grumet. Election term is for one year. Nominations for Board Chair - Clint Buck by Christine Curtis-Carr and second motion by James McGee. Call for consensus by Clint. Show of hands by all. Next is Vice Chair. Nominees are Dorothy Davidson by Beth Reeves. Second by Christine Curtis-Carr. Clint called for a vote. All in favor of Dorothy serving as Vice Chair by show of hands. Passed unanimously.

**Friends of the Library Report** – New members of the Board from the January meeting are Judith Phaneuf (President) and Garrett Smith (Vice chair). The Board is having their first meeting for the June book sale soon.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

The next scheduled Advisory Board Meeting is May 6, 2019 at 4 P.M at the Main Branch location.

Respectfully submitted,

**Linda Camacho**

Linda Camacho, Library Administrative Assistant