

ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 3, 2021

The Abilene Public Library Advisory Board met in the conference room of the Main Branch Library at 4:00 PM, Monday, May 3, 2021. A quorum was present.

Board Members present: Clint Buck (Chair), Dorothy Davidson, Elizabeth Norman, Tim de la Vega, Jason Hernandez

~~Tim de la Vega, Jason Hernandez~~ 

Board Members absent: Joe Specht, Christine Curtis-Carr

Also Attending: Julee Hatton, Library Director; Trent Dietz, City Attorney; Haley Napier, Assistant City Attorney; Tremain Jackson, Technology/Multimedia & Social Media Manager/Librarian II; Linda Camacho, Library Administrative Assistant

Media present: None

Mr. Clint Buck called the meeting to order at 4:14 PM.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted. Motion to approve from Elizabeth Norman; Jason Hernandez seconded. No objections, conversations or adjustments made; minutes accepted as presented.

Clint welcomed new Advisory Board Member: Jason Hernandez who is the Group Fitness Coordinator for Crunch Fitness, and also serving as a board member of Day Nursery of Abilene and Abilene Hope Haven.

Library Director's Report - Mrs. Hatton reported in February, we had the winter storm hit, no damages to our three branches from this storm. March 10th both Main and South returned to 100% capacity and regular hours. On April 1st, Mockingbird reopened its doors with regular staff who had been gone for a year working at the health department. All staff is working into summer reading preparations, gearing up for programming, and having a great summer attendance.

Mrs. Hatton submitted the annual report to the state so we can be accredited once again. We should have a notice in July once it is accepted.

We have moved to city board emails and everyone should be able to access their email account, all communication from the board will be sent and received from the board emails accounts.

Summer Reading Program - Mr. Tremain Jackson stated summer reading is coming up on June 1st. When staff would usually spend up to eight months preparing for Summer Reading Club activities, we had a little over a month to plan a complete summer of activities due to waiting for staff to return from the Health Department. We did manage to do it. We will focus less on virtual programming now that COVID has lessened as we want people to come back to the library. Programming, such as Once upon a Story time, which features princesses has brought in hundreds of people. Starting on June 1st, we will have three clubs for summer reading programs including kids', teens, and adults. They will pick up a packet input their information, including reading logs, and turn them in for a chance to win prizes. Library Bingo is another exciting way to discover different programs. They can check out a digital audiobook to use more of the services we have to offer. Once they bingo they can turn in their sheet for a chance at a prize.

Jessica Reyes, our Multimedia Specialist, is back from the health department and working with me again. We will be going to every event possible to film, take photos, make short promotional videos, and at the end we will make a big summer reading club videos at the end of summer. It's going to be a busy summer, but a fun one for all.

Read to a Dog Day is registered Therapy Dogs that come in from Tail Waggin' Tutors, and we work with them a lot, including Abilene Therapy Dogs, where guests learn about the dogs, what they do, and then pick a book to sit down and read to them in a great literacy event for local youth.

Young Audiences is another program we will fill the auditorium without about 200-300 kids. We'll host two sessions per day. Another new program will be Stories in the Garden, hosted at the Adamson-Spalding Storybook Garden by the Abilene Convention Center, the Zoo Lady Visits, and so much more that will hopefully get our attendance back up again.

Lib-Con has been cancelled the past two years, we will be meeting to discuss what to do for next year. Do we revamp it or keep it the same way as when we started?

Friends of the Library Report – The book sale will continue on June 17-20 as planned. No book donations at this time we this time as we have sufficient inventory. Global Samaritan will be the after sale donation group; with 95% of all donations coming from the community. Volunteers are always needed so feel free to contact the Friends of the Library. We'll begin to accept book donations on July 8 with a regular schedule of Mondays and Thursdays from 10AM to 2PM, Saturdays from 10AM to 12PM.

Trent introduced Haley Napier, the new assistant city attorney who comes to us from Ohio. We are back at 5 attorneys now and are excited.

The first motion to adjourn: Elizabeth Norman, and the Second Motion: Jason Hernandez

No Objections.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41PM.

The next scheduled Advisory Board Meeting is August 2, 2021, at 4:00 PM at the Main Branch location.



Clint Buck, Chair

Linda Camacho,
Linda Camacho, Library Administrative Assistant