

**ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
February 6, 2023

The Abilene Public Library Advisory Board met in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 4:00PM, Monday, February 6, 2023. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present: Clint Buck (Chair), Dorothy Davidson, Denise Moore, Elizabeth Norman, Judith Phaneuf, Joe Specht, Tim de la Vega

Board Members Absent: None

Also Attending: Julee Hatton, Library Director; Kelley Messer, Assistant City Attorney; Linda Camacho, Library Administrative Assistant

Media present: None

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

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as submitted. Motion to approve from Elizabeth Norman; second by Judith Phaneuf.

No objections, conversations or adjustments made; minutes accepted as presented.

Mr. Buck opened the public comment period. The following individuals addressed the Advisory Board:

- Eric Bengs: Questioned the residency requirements and reconsideration request timeline in the proposed collection development policy.
- Tammy Fogle: Questioned the reconsideration request timeline in the proposed collection development policy.
- Rebecca Gingrich: Disagreed with the proposed collection development policy, including residency requirements for the on-order review catalog.
- Ryan Goodwin: Questioned why books are held to different standards than movies.
- Brandt Fisher: Questioned the residency requirements and reconsideration request timeline in the proposed collection development policy. Mentioned the city council resolution regarding obscene and harmful material and asked that those definitions be used in the board decision on the titles under reconsideration.
- Francisca Rodriguez: Mentioned that a lot has been done and offered thanks to the board for what has been done, but was still concerned about being able to use the library safely.
- Thomas Anglemeyer: Quoted the Texas penal code which defines obscene and harmful materials.
- Erica Batten: Wishes to make sure we are putting good boundaries in our libraries for our children and that we are already making great steps towards this.
- Elizabeth Powell: Spoke in support of the proposed collection development policy and the reconsideration request timeline. Mentioned that parents should be responsible to keep their own children safe, as the library should be for everyone.

Mr. Buck closed the Public Comments for the meeting.

**Library Director's Report:** Ms. Hatton reported on the on-order review process. Adult resident APL card holders can go into the on-order online catalog and comment on any juvenile and young adult books that are on order. All submitted comments are then sent to the advisory board in the board packet. This new feature was launched in December, and as of this meeting, we have not received any comments on the books that are currently on order.

Restricted juvenile library cards were also launched in December and as of this meeting, no cards have been issued. This library card only allows cardholders to check out children's and juvenile fiction books from the Abilene Public Library. They are not given access to checking out young adult or adult books, movies, digital content, electronic resources, or materials from other libraries within the Abilene Library Consortium.

**Review On-Order Catalog comments and make a recommendation to the Library Director on pending book orders:**

First motion to entertain the recommendation from Joe Specht; second from Elizabeth Norman.

Mr. Buck reported there were no comments on the pending book orders from the online on-order review catalog, which launched in December 2022, so review was not needed. First motion to recommend approval of the pending book orders made by Joe Specht; second by Denise Moore. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

The advisory board's recommendation will now go to the Library Director who will oversee the completion of these book orders. This will be a standard agenda item for future board meetings.

**Review updated Collection Development Policy**

The packet provided to board members contained the updated Collection Development Policy, which the Library Director was charged with reviewing by the City Manager.

Motion made to approve the Collection Development Policy by Elizabeth Norman; second by Judith Phaneuf. The vote was unanimous; motion carried. The Collection Development Policy will now go to the City Council for its consideration for passing.

**Active Reconsideration Requests**

Included in the advisory board's packets is the list of reconsideration requests received since October 1, 2022. This list is for the board's information only and no action is required. These requests will be considered at the next board meeting.

**Receive a report from the Review Committee and make a recommendation to the City Administration on the reconsideration of library materials requests received by the board through September 30, 2022.**

The original report was presented at the November 7, 2022 Library Advisory Board meeting. A motion to take it off the table was made by Elizabeth Norman; second by Denise Moore.

A motion to approve the review committee's recommendation as presented was made by Joe Specht; second by Denise Moore. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

The advisory board's recommendation will go to the City Manager, who will make the final decision on all reconsideration requests. The petitioners will be notified of the final decisions.

Meeting adjourned at 4:22PM

The next scheduled Advisory Board Meeting is set for May 1, 2023, at 4:00PM at City Hall, 555 Walnut St., 2nd Floor Council Chambers.



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Clint Buck (Chair)

***Linda Camacho***

Linda Camacho, Library Administrative Assistant