



LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
BETTY WARMACK LIBRARY - EMPOWER ROOM, 760 BARDIN RD.
MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2021 AT 6:00 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patsy Ray called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

PRESENT

Patsy Ray, Chair

Stephanie Brown

Ann Chilton

Deinna Mims Johnson

Vanna Ngo

Dan Smith

ABSENT

Karen Eddlemon

Dana Jackson

Eric J. Smith

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1. Approval of Minutes – May 24, 2021

Dan Smith made a motion for approval of the May 24, 2021 minutes and Ann Chilton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Special Needs Programming

Outreach and Special Projects Programmer Ashley Wyche updated the Board on the Library's programming for special needs children, teens, and adults. Programs have been virtual during the pandemic, but are transitioning to in-person. Project kits for virtual programs are distributed at the library so that patrons can participate remotely. Wyche described a variety of the current programs, including sensory storytimes, all-abilities playgroup, STEAM programs for teens and adults. To reach outside of the library and into the community, Wyche connected with partners such as GPISD and Children's Hospital. The goal of these programs are to go beyond

accessibility and provide the best possible service to library customers with special needs.

3. Circulation and Door Count Report

Peter Sime, Library Services Supervisor for People, discussed the Library System's circulation and attendance statistics. While our circulation and attendance numbers have not yet reached pre-pandemic levels, these numbers continue to increase as we add back reduced service hours and expand our programs. System-wide checkouts, door count, computer hours, and new borrowers have all increased since last month. In May of 2021 we checked out 8,104 items. In June 2021, we checked out 12,922, a 59% increase. We expect this trend to continue upward as we rebuild our in-house programming throughout the fall.

4. Diversity Audit

Jennifer Douglas, Library Services Supervisor of Process, updated the Board on the Process department's upcoming diversity audit of our adult fiction collection. Diversity audits are a current best-practice tool in libraries, with the goal of ensuring that our collection reflects the diversity of our community. Race, sex, class, and gender orientation will be evaluated for both the author and main character of the story. Librarians will be evaluating approximately 10% of the collection. This is the first time that we have conducted this project. Board Chair Ray asked if this was developed in response to a complaint. Douglas explained that we have had no complaints, but that libraries around the country are using this method to ensure the diversity of their collections. Board member Vanna Ngo asked if the results would be available to when we finish the audit. Douglas answered that we will be bringing the results back to the Board upon completion of the project.

5. Friends of the Library Update

Library Services Manager Jennifer Walker reported to the Board that the Friends of the Library have restarted their operations. There will be a book sale in October, but details are still pending. They are once again accepting donations for the sale from the public. The Friends sort donation items every Monday at 9am. New members are welcome at any time.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens may speak during Citizen Comments for up to five minutes on any item not on the agenda by completing and submitting a speaker card.

There were no citizen comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm

The foregoing minutes were approved at the _____ Library Board meeting.

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email Cathy Le at cle@gptx.org at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled meeting to request an accommodation.

Certification

In accordance with Chapter 551, Subchapter C of the Government Code, V.T.C.A, the Library Board agenda was prepared and posted June 22, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Sprinkles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a decorative flourish at the end.

Amy Sprinkles, Library Director