



Library Board Meeting Minutes January 19, 2022

Pro-Tem Chairperson: Desri Hansen
Board Members: Catherine Hansen and Kristi Prozialeck
Board Members Absent: Angela Christensen
Staff Present: Library Supervisor Lori Ross, Librarian's Cheryl Spangler and Amanda Pelkey
Meeting Location: Harrisburg Municipal Center Located at 354 Smith St

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL at the hour of 6:07pm

CONCERNED CITIZEN(S) IN THE AUDIENCE. None present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Prozialeck motioned to approve the minutes for the November 2, 2021 Library Board meeting and was seconded by Hansen. The Library Board then voted unanimously to approve the minutes for November 2, 2021.

THE MATTER OF FILLING A LIBRARY BOARD VACANCY

STAFF REPORT: Ross thanked all three applicants for applying to be on the Library Board. She informed all three candidates that if they weren't elected tonight, there are other committees who are always looking for volunteers.

Ross introduced the first candidate, BJ O'Brien who recently moved to Harrisburg.

- O'Brien informed the board that she was a retired teacher of 35 years, a florist for 20 years and has four cats and a dog. She has vast experience in organizing, running fundraisers and programs. She looks forward to meeting new people and getting involved in the community.
- D. Hansen asked O'Brien if she taught K-12th grade. O'Brien answered she taught 17 years pre-K and junior college at Inter-City Los Angeles and the last 18 years K-8th grade by Kings Canyon National Park.
- O'Brien commented that she loves for kids to have a book in their hand instead of googling and it's a concern she has for kids these days along with not being able to write.

Ross introduced the next candidate, Alexandria Bennett, who move to Harrisburg two years ago.

- Bennett introduced herself and stated that she loved Oregon and Harrisburg. She attended college in Oklahoma and got a degree in political science. She's a substitute Teacher for Corvallis and she hopes to be soon for Harrisburg.
- Prozialeck asked why the Library Board? Bennett said has a collection of her own and is trying to go to the Library more. She feels Libraries are a core to the community.
- D. Hansen asked what programs she would like to see or how she could she make them better. Bennett stated that she loves Lego Club and Book Clubs. She would want to promote better and get the community involved.
- C Hansen asked if she had any experience with grant writing. Bennett replied that she did not.
- A. Pelkey asked how she would promote in order to get the community more involved in the Library. Bennett replied by putting up signs to push group study or volunteer positions.

Ross introduced that last candidate, Lori Pelkey who lives in Junction City.

- L. Pelkey commented that she loves the Library. She has seven children, and she regularly visited the Library in Monroe when she was raising them and eventually became a Community Library Specialist for Monroe Public Library. She loves meeting the patrons, especially the kids, and having that connection with the community and when an opportunity came up in Harrisburg, for Story Time, she was excited to be able to volunteer for the program.
- C Hansen asked is she was still working at the Monroe Library and L. Pelkey replied yes.
- D. Hansen commented that L. Pelkey volunteers for Story Time every Friday and asked her how long she was wanting to help with Harrisburg if Monroe was to restart their program? L Pelkey replied that she would love to as long as it didn't interfere with her 25-hour work schedule.
- C Hansen asked if she was a Monroe resident and why not the Monroe or Junction City Library Board? L. Pelkey replied that she lives in Junction City, and it would be a conflict of interest for her to be on the Monroe Library Board and she hasn't thought about Junction City.
- A. Pelkey asked L. Pelkey how she would get people to come into the Library? Pelkey replied that as the Library moves forward, you need to reach out to the community, and let them know what the Library has to offer.
- A. Pelkey asked all three candidates, how they feel about a fine free Library.
 - L. Pelkey stated that she loves a fine free program as it did affect her family when her children were little. She has also seen it affect patrons at the Monroe Library.
 - Bennett stated that she loves it but tends to be skeptical of people. She thinks fines are put in place to protect the materials and protect the books from being lost or damaged and the money goes towards the Library.
 - O'Brien stated that she is old school and is about taking responsibility. She has no problem with kids or teens working off fines, unless they have lost the book.
- Ross thanked all three candidates once again for applying. Hansen stated that she thought everyone would bring something great to the Library Board and if she had to choose, she would vote for L. Pelkey because she is already a volunteer, and she appreciates all of her time with the story time program.

- Hansen **motioned to recommend to the City Council that they appoint Lori Pelkey to the Library Board with a term ending June 30, 2024 and was seconded by Prozialeck. The Library Board then voted unanimously to recommend Lori Pelkey to the Library Board.**

THE MATTER OF DISCUSSING LIBRARY PROGRAMS

STAFF REPORT: D. Hansen commented that story time has been hit and miss with attendance. The most participants they have had was about 15.

- D. Hansen stated that she dropped off flyers at the school and that we should hold off on changing the date and time for the Story Time program. She asked if anyone had ideas on how to get more people in attendance.
- Spangler said she would like to have stories towards older kids. D. Hansen thought we should focus the story on the younger kids. Spangler suggested having the older kids attend something in the Library.
- D. Hansen suggested that Lego Club might be something for Fridays also. Pelkey said she would be willing to create a curriculum for a Friday program. Pelkey suggested an older book club, maybe happening at the same time, where a chapter is read each week and then discussed.
- Prozialeck thought we should focus on Lego Club and see how that goes and maybe discuss an older kid book club later. C Hansen said she would work on the flyer. The Friday Lego Club would start on Friday, the 28th at 10am for ages 5-10yrs.
- C Hansen said she would be willing to volunteer for an Adult Book Club. Ross said the 2nd, or fourth Thursday nights were available. C Hansen thought maybe the 10th of February and then the 2nd Thursday, starting at 6:30pm to 8pm. C Hansen said she would also make a flyer for the book club.
- C Hansen asked about the D & D program and Spangler commented that it would be after January, and it would be an adult program.

Others:

- Ross informed the Board that at the next meeting we will need to appoint a Chairperson and a Vice Chair.
- Spangler updated the Board regarding the mural. Jerry Dame, of Harrisburg, said he would like to paint the mural and will be giving us a price quote and some ideas for the design. Spangler commented that she has already received some donations that will be used towards the mural and has applied for a grant. Ross suggested formally asking the Library Guild for funding. Ross suggested possibly meeting February 2nd at 6pm in order to speed up the mural process.
- Ross informed the Board that Council will be wanting some stats, to determine the fate of the fine free program. D. Hansen remembers some of Council's concerns which included; if there was going to be an excess cost to cover lost materials; will people take advantage of the Library, and would the materials be checked out for a normal amount of time? D. Hansen asked the Librarians if they feel people are taking advantage the program and if materials are being brought back at a normal time. Pelkey said it's been hard to tell, but the book bin is always full.
- Ross asked if they are having success with the late letters and email notifications? Spangler said that yes, people will call and renew once they get the first letter. Ross also asked about the letters for lost materials, in which the patron has been charged. Pelkey said she has had one patron who lost and paid for the material. Spangler said she had someone who damaged a book but took responsibility and replaced it.

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- D. Hansen said council might like to hear community response.
- Ross informed the Board that the City Administrator gave permission for the Library to have a Facebook page, however, a policy will need to be written and approved prior. Ross will work on the policy by the next meeting.
- Spangler stated that Miss Oregon will be attendance when the first graders once again have their annual visit to the Library.

ADJOURN at the hour of 7:42pm