

CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-07, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Acting Chair McKinney at 5:30 p.m. on February 18, 2025 at the Cowles Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: BOARDMEMBERS KUSZMAUL, ASSELIN-MARTIN, FINN, MCKINNEY, CARSSOW, HAAS & STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE MCDONOUGH

ABSENT: CHAIR BAILY, & STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE MCDONOUGH (BOTH EXCUSED)

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK APPEL

AGENDA APPROVAL

Acting Chair McKinney read the agenda

CARSSOW/FINN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 minute time limit)

RECONSIDERATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Unapproved Minutes for December 17, 2024

HAAS/FINN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 17 MINUTES

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

A. Friends of the Homer Library

The Friends of the Homer Public Library gave a presentation on their activities throughout 2024, including the Big Read Program featuring three books, various events and guest presenters, and the Celebration of Lifelong Learning fundraiser. They also discussed their summer reading program, volunteer appreciation efforts, and community outreach through the Bookmobile. The presentation highlighted the Friends' ongoing programs,

author talks, and special events throughout the new year, emphasizing their role in supporting the library and promoting the library in the community.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Library Director's Report

December 2024 & January 2025

Stats for 2023

Stats for 2024

Library Director Berry covered the following:

- Renovations began in study room 6
- Maintenance is still trying to figure out the heating system and why cold air is blowing into back rooms
- Bill Jirsa, Dave Berry, and Susie Inglis gave another talk on AI. The talk was similar to the one held in October, but the crowd had more technical questions due to prior exposure to AI.
- Sarah Springer was hired as the new part time Library Technician

B. Fundraising Report

Board member Kuszmaul spoke about a sizeable donation that helped bring up the balance of the library's account. She also spoke on the copper fish created for donors and that there has been initiation on the next batch of fish to be cut out, stamped, and ready to used for new donations.

C. Legislative Report

Board member Finn reported that with Legislature just starting, the funding/grant sources are still being discussed and are up in the air at this point. She encouraged the board members to reach out and write to local legislators in support of the libraries across Alaska having access to funding.

D. Comp Plan Steering Committee Report

Board member Carssow discussed the draft comprehensive plan, which is open for public review and comment until March 14th. She also mentioned that the steering committee's role is now over and the plan will go through a formal review once all public comment is received and analyzed.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. Revisions to Library Policies

Library Director Berry led a discussion with suggested changes to the Library Policy including specifying that users must be eighteen years of age or older to reserve the conference room and revising the donor recognition policy to only recognize donors who contribute through the Homer Foundation. The Board also discussed the possibility of deleting library cards that have been in expired status for over seven years to clean up records. The Board also spoke on the inclusion of case law related to library services. Board member Haas suggested some grammatical corrections and the need for a reference to the law defining sexual conduct and obscenity. The Board decided to table the discussion on the definitions of sexual conduct and obscenity for a month to allow for further research.

B. Review of Library Fees

The Board discussed library fees with a recommendation from Library Director Berry that the library fee schedule would not be revised at this time. The Board agreed and no other discussion was had.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. City Manager's Report January 13 City Council Meeting

B. City Manager's Report January 27 City Council Meeting

Acting Chair McKinney noted the informational materials.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBERS (if Present)

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Acting Chair McKinney adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

ASHLEY APPEL, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved: _____