



## Homer City Hall

491 E. Pioneer Avenue

Homer, Alaska 99603

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

# City of Homer Agenda

## Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 5:30 PM

City Hall Cowles Council Chambers via Zoom

Webinar ID: 991 8847 0047 Password: 125016

Dial: 346-248-7799 or 669-900-6833; (Toll Free) 888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247

**CALL TO ORDER, 5:30 P.M.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA** (3 minute time limit)

**RECONSIDERATION**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. LAB July 7, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes **Page 3**

**VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

**STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Library Director Report for July 2020 **Page 10**  
i. 2019 Statistical Report **Page 13**  
ii. 2020 Statistical Report (laydown)

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**PENDING BUSINESS**

A. Election of LAB Officers **Page 14**

B. Planned Giving Worksession with the Homer Foundation **Page 15**

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Advertising Fine-Free Library Service **Page 16**

**INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

A. Friends of the Homer Library August 2020 Newsletter **Page 17**

B. LAB 2020 Calendar **Page 33**

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE** (3 minute time limit)

**COMMENTS OF THE STAFF**

**COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER** (if present)

**COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**

**COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Next Regular Meeting is **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.** All meetings scheduled to be held via Zoom Webinar in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

Session 20-03, a Special Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Marcia Kuszmaul at 5:39 p.m. on July 7, 2020 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska via Zoom webinar. One seat still remains vacant.

**PRESENT:** BOARDMEMBERS FINN, PETERSON, FAIR, VERNON, KUSZMAUL

**ABSENT:** BOARDMEMBER SPRINGER (excused)

**STAFF:** LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK TUSSEY

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Kuszmaul asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

FAIR/FINN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

Boardmember Finn inquired on when would be the best time to discuss the vacant student representative position; Deputy City Clerk Tussey noted that the Comments of the Board would be the appropriate time.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

### **RECONSIDERATION**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. LAB March 3, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Chair Kuszmaul asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

FAIR/VERNON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 3, 2020.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

## **STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Library Director Report for April, May, & June 2020
- i. 2019 Statistical Report
  - ii. 2020 Statistical Report (laydown)

Library Director Berry provided his staff report and facilitated board discussion on the following topics:

- Closures due to COVID and library staff's efforts to provide continued services at a limited capacity. Overview of mitigation efforts that are required for people entering the library.
- Application submitted for a technology upgrade; one of the upgrades would allow the library to convert over to Radio Frequency ID (RFID) for book check-outs, getting away from magnetic strips, allowing self-checkouts, and allow customers to print items from outside of the building for curbside pickup.
- Expanding the Wi-Fi to the library parking lot and entryway/plaza; City Council found it was so important that they approved the funds to make it happen as soon as possible. Will initially be 24/7 but will see how it works; do not want people camping out in the parking lot all night.
- Loaning out laptops to help public lacking technology access.
- Commending library staff for all their extracurricular trainings, courses, and above-and-beyond efforts during COVID.

There was brief discussion on the curbside check-out process, and how Radio Frequency ID tagging works and if that will have an effect on library staff.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Election of LAB Officers

Chair Kuszmaul noted that elections commonly occur during the April regular meeting, but they have not had a meeting since then. She opened the floor for chair nominations.

Boardmember Finn suggested nominating Ms. Kuszmaul as Chair.

VERNON/FAIR MOVED TO NOMINATE MARCIA KUSZMAUL AS CHAIR.

Ms. Kuszmaul agreed to accept the position. She gave notice that it would be for one last time as she felt the position should not be perpetual with one member but give everyone the opportunity.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Since Vice Chair Springer was absent, the board discussed postponing the Vice Chair election until the next meeting, August 4<sup>th</sup>, to allow Ms. Springer to participate in the discussion. Chair Kuszmaul noted that both she and Ms. Springer were the non-city resident members, and suggested Boardmember Finn be considered for the seat. Ms. Finn commented that she would prefer to consult with the current Vice Chair before agreeing to the nomination.

PETERSON/FAIR MOVED TO POSTPONE ELECTING A VICE CHAIR UNTIL THE AUGUST 4TH MEETING.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- B. Proposal for Fine-Free Library Service
  - i. Proposal from Library Staff
  - ii. Existing Library Fines and Fees Policy – January 2017
  - iii. Revised Fines and Fees Policies – Options A, B, C, & D
  - iv. Collected Research on Fine-Free Libraries

Chair Kuszmaul introduced the item by reading the title and deferred to Library Director Berry to begin discussion.

Mr. Berry explained how the proposal request came directly from City Council; two councilmembers wished to see a formal proposal for going fine-free, thus the reason for calling a special meeting. He provided background on how other libraries across the nation have started going fine-free as a way to not penalize library patrons and what that change could look like for the Homer Public Library. He explained the pros/cons that were broken down in the proposal, shared the loss rate statistics for unreturned books, the \$15,500 financial impact it would have on the budget (about 1.7% of the library's operating budget), and presented the four revised fines and fees policy options in the proposal.

Boardmember Fair opined that overall the provided materials answered most of his questions, but had one point of clarification. If a patron has library materials out for too long, the items are considered "lost" and they have to pay for replacing it, but if the item is late, not lost (because there's a period of time that differentiates the two) and they haven't paid the replacement, is there a way to prevent them from checking out more while they have late material? Mr. Berry explained that there is a 25 book check-out limit, and once you hit that limit you cannot check out any more. Mr. Fair felt the pros definitely outweigh the cons; he understands the loss to the library revenue is significant but would be supportive of Option A: staying with the existing policy but have no overdue fees, and then at a later time finding ways to mitigate the costs of going with this system.

Boardmember Finn commented that she would like to see all the fines go away, shared her appreciation for all the materials provided, and what she had learned from what other libraries have done. She asked about the increase in printer fees, if that would be cost prohibitive/a burden to those who get copies done at the library, or if the cost offset was worth it. Mr. Berry explained that doubling the

printing rates does offset the revenue loss, but does add an additional burden to those customers who rely on those services, which is why that is just one of the options. Ms. Finn agreed that would limit the number of people who use the printing services. She then asked what it is the board has to provide at this meeting to City Council and if they would be willing to take the loss in revenue. Mr. Berry explained the need for a recommendation to Council for one of the four options or something else, to go along with the formal proposal. He was not sure what Council would approve, if they would be in favor of the loss in revenue or not.

Boardmember Vernon voiced being in favor of going fine-free. He commented about getting feedback from patrons directly on what their thoughts are, like a feedback/comment box at the library's front counter. There was discussion on ways to involve the patrons in the decision. Boardmember Peterson pointed out the public is unlikely to be against it, and the decision is really a financial one that is up to City Council. Deputy City Clerk Tussey noted that the City Council meeting itself is part of the public process and would give the public an opportunity to comment, and that there isn't much foot traffic at the library given it's closed due to COVID-19.

FAIR/FINN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE REVISED FINES POLICY OPTION A, THE ELIMINATION OF OVERDUE FINES, TO THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL.

Chair Kuszmaul agreed with no fines, but voiced her concern that many library items/materials represent public dollars that have been spent, and that needs to be respected. She felt there should be higher replacement fines for lost or stolen items. She recommended increasing the processing fee from \$7.

Boardmember Peterson voiced her objection to that increase since it could penalize people who may have genuinely lost it (there was a flood or the dog ate it) versus people who intentionally lost it (deliberately keeps the item); it seems like kicking a person while they're already down. Ms. Peterson asked for clarification: when an item is listed as lost and that fee is applied to a person's account, how much does the library recover those costs or do they just stop using the library? Mr. Berry said the recovery rate is about 50%; they did a study and found that the big spenders/in-debtors were cards that expired in 2014/2015 who had hundreds of dollars' worth of items out and then just disappeared. The processing fee may not cover all of the expenses/staff time, but it does help offset it. Ms. Peterson felt the information provided by library staff has been presented well and asked what their opinions are. Mr. Berry said staff is all in favor of going fine free, and are also big on the spirit of community service and don't like having to penalize library users for being 2 days late on a book. Library staff has discussed the subject and mutually agreed that if they have to make budget cuts to offset the losses, they will make it happen. Mr. Berry shared his hope that City Council will agree to that loss but he may be too positive.

Boardmember Finn commended Berry for his solid response and supports Option A even more.

Boardmember Vernon agreed to no fees, but felt there should be some sort of way to offset some of those losses, like small donations at the counter. The Board agreed and clarified with staff if there was a small donation fund for the library at the front counter that didn't belong to the Friends of the Homer Library. Mr. Berry clarified that when we talk about eliminating fines, we're talking about something

that affects the City's general fund. Chair Kuszmaul pointed out that we now have the library endowment fund, so perhaps there could be a money jar at the front for small donations that could be deposited into the endowment fund.

Chair Kuszmaul proposed raising the replacement processing fee to \$10 as a way to show City Council that there's a little bit of compensation and to acknowledge that lost items are a hit to the library.

KUSZMAUL/VERNON MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO RAISE THE REPLACEMENT PROCESSING FEE FROM \$7 TO \$10.

Boardmember Finn voiced her approval of doing a little something to acknowledge there is a loss of City funds, and does not feel that it should be done through increasing the copy fees.

Boardmember Fair asked for Mr. Berry's input. Mr. Berry supported the increase, adding that the fee has not changed much since 1999.

VOTE (amendment): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Chair Kuszmaul commented on the copy fees and it being such a core service that she'd hate to see it becoming cost-prohibitive. Mr. Berry responded that those rates have not changed very much since 1999 either; you can see the price influx over the years and it seems to have settled at where it's supposed to be. In response to further questions, Mr. Berry explained how the rate increase options were put to the staff for their opinion and they had supported Option A. He stated that eventually they will need to increase other rates to accommodate 20 years' worth of inflation.

Boardmember Fair shared that he would like to not have any other rate increases or amendments. He felt they should talk about price increases at a later time and just vote on the current proposal of going fine-free.

VOTE (main motion as amended): NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. Friends of the Homer Library July 2020 Newsletter
- B. LAB 2020 Calendar
- C. Boardmember Attendance at 2020 City Council Meetings

Chair Kuszmaul noted the FHL newsletter and thanked Boardmember Peterson for putting that together. At the request of Ms. Kuszmaul, Deputy City Clerk Tussey reported that no applications have been received for the vacant seat or the student representative position. Ms. Kuszmaul suggested including reviewing fees during their regular February meeting when they review library policies.

Discussion ensued on budget review and when the LAB may look at the library's budget. There was a brief discussion on the next Council meeting, if the fee recommendation will be at that meeting, and when materials will be required. Ms. Kuszmaul agreed to give the LAB report at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting and requested a volunteer for future ones, to which Boardmember Finn agreed to report at the August 10<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

Library Director Berry had no comments.

Deputy City Clerk Tussey thanked the board for a good meeting.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER**

#### **COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Kuszmaul thanked Ms. Tussey for all her Public Information Officer work around COVID-19.

Ms. Kuszmaul commented on their efforts to continue with endowment fund planning, and that she is working to set up potential future presentation with the head of the Homer Foundation and Terry Spigelmyer, an attorney with the foundation who has lead sessions at the library on planned giving. Yet it may be difficult to get anything going until the LAB is able to meet in person and requested the boards input on if it should wait or if they should just get the ball rolling and do the meeting/presentation via Zoom. Boardmember Finn opined that Zoom meetings are much more convenient than having to meeting outside, and doesn't want to put this initial meeting off for too long. Discussion ensued; the board mutually agreed to move forward with setting up the planned giving presentation/worksession sometime in September, even if it's via Zoom.

#### **COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

Boardmember Fair commented that it was great to see everyone and thanked Ms. Tussey and Mr. Berry for their work. He inquired on how he can participate in the Read between the Lines Program; Ms. Peterson runs that program and agreed to send him the info.

Boardmember Vernon voiced his interest in doing the Reading between the Lines Programs as well.

Boardmember Peterson provided information on the program and how it works, and agreed to send info to those interested. She commented that it was a good meeting and she felt she had gotten a handle on this new Zoom technology.

Boardmember Finn thanked Mr. Berry and Ms. Tussey for their work. She commented on the size of the packet and how three months' worth of library reports and all the FHL newsletter shows just how busy things have been and how much has been put together during this time. Ms. Finn spoke on the Student

Representative position. Marina Greear had some recommendations and Ms. Finn requested boardmembers keep a lookout for a new LAB member. She to a book display suggestion she had for library staff regarding women's right to vote.

Chair Kuszmaul asked the group for any suggestions or recommendations to fill the vacant LAB position. Discussion ensued, including clarification that it's a city resident position, who may be interested, and the application process through the City Clerk's Office and City Council/the Mayor.

### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m. A regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held via Zoom webinar in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_

## **Director's Report, Homer Public Library**

**July 30, 2020**

### **General Notes**

The big news this month: Homer Public Library is now fine-free! On July 27 the City Council voted to adopt Resolution 20-65, which abolishes overdue fines for all library materials. The library will still charge for other services (printing, photocopying, etc.) and will charge a replacement/processing fee for lost or damaged items.

Study Room 5 is now available for one-person use, mainly for videoconferences and test-taking, but this room also houses the microfilm reader, typewriter and videophone.

Staff have been working on revisions to the website, aiming to make it simpler to navigate, more interactive and easier to maintain. At this point we have a structure worked out but there are still many technical details to be developed.

<b>Director's Meetings in July 2020</b>					
Library Advisory Board (LAB)	Friends of Homer Library (FHL)	Staff	City Council	Department Heads	Other
1	1	5	1	1	0

### **Staff Notes**

Claudia Haines and Matt Smith have been working on a proposal for Project READY, which enhances access to library services and collections for youth of all races.

### **Facility**

The building required repairs to some patches of siding. We've also had issues with wasps building nests outside the emergency exit and inside the bookmobile. The cranes keep pecking at the windows, though so far they haven't managed to break through.

### **Library Advisory Board (LAB)**

The LAB met on July 7 to debate a proposal for fine-free service, and voted unanimously to support it. Marcia Kuszmaul was elected to a second term as Board Chair. The position of Vice Chair will be elected at the August meeting.

### **Friends of the Homer Library (FHL)**

FHL has been busy this month—planning an outdoor booksale in September, discussing the Art in the Library program, clearing brush in the western lot and surveying possible sites to build a stage. The bookmobile continues to see significant usage.

Events in July 2020		
Date	Time	Event
Wednesdays 7/8-7/29	10:00-11:00	American Sign Language Club (via Zoom)
7/2	1:00-3:00	Literary Ladies (via Zoom)
7/7	6:30-8:00	SPARC Radio Club (via Zoom)
7/12	1:00-5:00	Second Sunday Shakespeare (via Zoom): <i>Henry IV Part 2</i>
7/28	4:30-6:30	FHL Book Club (via Zoom)

Upcoming Events in August 2020		
Date	Time	Event
8/1-8/3		Community voting on LEGO competition
8/3	11:00-12:00	Shawn Harris, professional cartoonist (via Zoom)
8/5 and 8/12	4:00-5:00	HPL Code Club (via Zoom)
8/7		Last day for HPL Kids Write
8/9	1:00-4:00	Second Sunday Shakespeare (via Zoom): <i>Troilus and Cressida</i>
8/15		Last day for Summer Reading and Learning Program

Ongoing Events		
Date	Time	Event
Thursdays	10:00-11:00	Storytime on KBBI with Claudia Haines
First Tuesday	6:30-8:00	SPARC Radio Club (via Zoom)
First Thursday	1:00-3:00	Literary Ladies (via Zoom)
Fourth Tuesday	4:30-6:30	FHL Book Club (via Zoom)

## Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2019

Date: 30-Jan-20

CIRCULATION	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y.T.D.
Total # of Items	14,807	14,004	14,720	13,453	13,083	13,478	15,511	13,884	14,535	14,904	13,882	13,167	169,428
<b>INTERLIBRARY LOANS</b>													
Incoming (Borrowed)	19	8	20	15	8	9	21	23	18	21	19	15	196
Outgoing (Lent)	52	15	41	34	30	33	35	45	34	24	28	16	387
<b>STUDY ROOM USE</b>													
# of groups	207	232	234	246	237	203	211	224	244	315	247	194	2,794
# of people	422	467	416	501	452	322	332	396	457	630	456	339	5,190
<b>MEETING ROOM USE</b>													
# of groups	37	27	35	24	22	26	35	23	33	32	28	27	349
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>													
TOTAL (*Included)	9,827	8,782	9,536	10,675	11,269	11,139	13,361	11,569	11,402	12,127	10,078	8711	128,476
*Story Hour & Lapsit	404	270	319	240	300	233	279	230	302	334	208	188	3,307
*School Classes	56	23	54	59	72	0	0	0	107	54	113	5	543
Internet sessions	3,165	3,083	3,550	3,913	4,014	4,231	4,954	4,670	4,345	3,394	3,191	2569	45,079
*Programs	358	650	144	575	1242	837	1319	287	875	844	588	276	7,995
<b>OUTREACH</b>													
# Visits	11	10	6	10	8	7	4	5	9	6	7	10	93
# People	339	213	49	139	352	100	10	19	220	140	67	72	1,720
<b>NEW CARDS ISSUED</b>													
City	36	42	31	26	47	40	34	26	47	32	47	26	434
Borough	30	23	26	20	32	42	37	32	59	41	34	12	388
Temporary	0	1	4	0	5	8	1	2	0	2	2	1	26
Reciprocal	1	0	1	0	2	3	6	6	0	2	0	0	21
<b>VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>													
# of people	88	83	89	20	32	32	90	70	78	93	90	80	845
# of hours	219	231.5	240	173.5	146	200	364	202.25	234.5	277.25	233.75	165.25	2,687
<b>MATERIALS ADDED</b>													
Books	303	177	295	187	297	356	238	317	261	403	286	369	3,489
Audio	39	12	4	0	9	11	7	12	37	21	3	22	177
Video	44	65	65	72	70	74	51	89	67	83	80	95	855
Serials	0	0	1	1	1	18	2	2	0	0	0	0	25
Electronic Resources	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>MATERIALS REMOVED</b>													
Books	178	91	210	14	373	112	302	313	316	264	355	235	2,763
Audio	7	0	1	0	0	1	5	12	28	1	0	0	55
Video	64	8	79	23	32	196	28	1	11	14	4	93	553
Serials	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	7
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
<b>REVENUES DEPOSITED</b>													
Fines/Fees/Copies	2480.27	2316.46	2791.18	1350.85	3248.50	2783.69	2542.32	2589.16	2761.35	3422.92	1489.50	2047.59	29,823.79
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)													0.00
Grants			500.00		12550.00			7000.00			300.00		20,350.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,480.27</b>	<b>2,316.46</b>	<b>3,291.18</b>	<b>1,350.85</b>	<b>15,798.50</b>	<b>2,783.69</b>	<b>2,542.32</b>	<b>9,589.16</b>	<b>2,761.35</b>	<b>3,422.92</b>	<b>1,789.50</b>	<b>2,047.59</b>	<b>\$50,173.79</b>

Incomplete

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# City of Homer

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

Office of the City Clerk

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(p) 907-235-3130

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## Memorandum

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD  
FROM: RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK  
DATE: JULY 30, 2020  
SUBJECT: ELECTION OF NEW VICE CHAIR

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Per the board's bylaws: "A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected from among the appointed board members at the regular April meeting of the Board", which occurs after the last cycle of boardmember appointments/reappointments on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Since the LAB did not meet in April or May, officer elections took place during the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Due to the excused absence of the current Vice Chair, the board agreed to postpone the rest of officer elections until the August 4<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

### RECOMMENDATION

Make a motion to select a new Vice-Chair; boardmembers can then provide nominations; Chair will call for a vote.



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500 Hazel Avenue  
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(p) (907)-235-3180

(f) (907)-235-3136

### Memorandum

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD  
THROUGH: DAVID BERRY, LIBRARY DIRECTOR  
FROM: MARCIA KUSZMAUL, LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR  
DATE: JULY 30, 2020  
SUBJECT: PLANNED GIVING WORKSESSION WITH THE HOMER FOUNDATION

In keeping with its charter, the LAB seeks to encourage donations from the general public to support the library. The Library Endowment Fund was established with the Homer Foundation in April 2020, and the Foundation has offered to share their expertise in setting up a Planned Giving program.

Chair Kuszmaul recommends scheduling a worksession with the Homer Foundation to consider practical questions and move forward with implementing Planned Giving. The timing, format, and agenda for this worksession are open for discussion.

#### RECOMMENDATION

For discussion; set up a worksession with the Homer Foundation.



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(p) (907)-235-3180

(f) (907)-235-3136

### Memorandum

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD  
THROUGH: DAVID BERRY, LIBRARY DIRECTOR  
FROM: MARCIA KUSZMAUL, LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR  
DATE: JULY 30, 2020  
SUBJECT: ADVERTISING FINE-FREE LIBRARY SERVICE

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Homer City Council approved a resolution to abolish library overdue fines, effective July 27, 2020. The new policy has already been communicated to the *Homer News*, KBBI, the LAB, Friends of Homer Library, and various other libraries across the state.

Chair Kuszmaul proposes that further efforts should be made to advertise the new policy as widely as possible.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

For discussion.

[View this email in your browser](#)



## Library Director's Report

David Berry

In contrast to past months, July has been fairly quiet at HPL. (Whew!) The Summer Reading Program is still chugging along, and increasing numbers of people are signing up for reservations to browse through the stacks, work on the computers or just sit and study. Curbside pickup is also in full swing. While it still feels unusually empty in the library, it's a lot less desolate than it was in April.

In a sign that normal life is picking up again, of our long-time substitutes, Jerri Nagaruk, has come back on the job. Jerri delivered library materials to homebound patrons for years, and we're glad to see her once more. Homebound deliveries resumed on July 13 and will be done every Monday, at least for now.

For some years there has been a global trend toward eliminating fines at public libraries. There are many reasons: to boost literacy rates, to assist poor patrons and reduce economic inequality, to eliminate a time-consuming chore that eats up a lot of staff effort, and on and on. At the meeting of the Library Advisory Board on July 7, staff introduced a proposal to abolish fines. The Board voted unanimously to recommend adopting the proposal, and forwarded it to the City Council for consideration.

As always, the library is extremely grateful to the Friends. FHL has taken the lead on clearing out brush in the western lot and keeping the plants outside the library watered, not to mention programs like Second Sunday Shakespeare and the book club. Thanks to all of you, for helping to keep the library in fine form. We couldn't manage without your assistance.

Best wishes!

Dave Berry

Director, Homer Public Library

907-435-3151

[dberry@ci.homer.ak.us](mailto:dberry@ci.homer.ak.us)

## Homer Public Library

### Current Status of Library Services

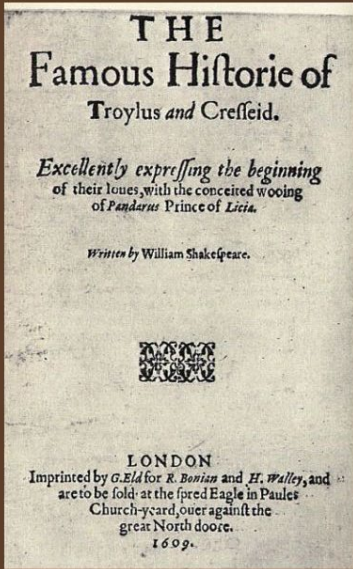
For questions, reservations, or curbside-pickup scheduling,  
call 235-3180 or email [circ@ci.homer.ak.us](mailto:circ@ci.homer.ak.us)


Service	Status
Alaska Digital Library	Available 24/7. Download eBooks and audiobooks.
Bookmobile	Available M and W 10:30-12:30 in the library parking lot.
<b>Book Sale*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
CD/DVD burner	Available through curbside pickup.
Community meetings	Available online through Zoom. <a href="#">Contact the library to organize a meeting.</a>
Curbside pickup	Available M-F: 10-6.
Fines payment	No fines are being collected at the moment.
<a href="#">Flipster online magazines</a>	Available through the library website. <a href="#">Download magazines.</a>
Food for Kids and Teens	Available M-F: 10-6, beside the bookdrop.
...	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-

<b>Headphones*</b>	5:30.
Holds	Available through curbside pickup.
Homebound Deliveries	Available. <a href="#">Contact the library for information.</a>
<b>In-library browsing*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
<b>In-library checkout*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
<b>In-library computer/internet access*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
<b>In-library study*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
Interlibrary Loan (ILL)	Not available
Laptops	Available through curbside pickup.
Library card registration	Available by phone or email.
Meeting room	Not available
Online databases	Available through the library website.
<b>Photocopying*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
<b>Printing*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
Projector (digital)	Available through curbside pickup.
Projector (overhead)	Available through curbside pickup.
Reference/Reader Advisory	Available by phone or email, M-F, 10-6
Returns	Available through the bookdrop.
<b>Scanning*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30
Storytime	Available on air Thursdays at 10:00 on KBBI AM 890.
Study rooms	Not available
Summer Reading and Learning Program	Available online and through curbside pickup.
<b>Test proctoring*</b>	Available by special arrangement. Call 235-3180 to schedule.
<b>Videophone*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
<b>Wi-fi (indoors)*</b>	Available by appointment M-F: 10:00-11:30, 1:30-3:00 and 4:00-5:30.
Wi-fi (outdoors)	Available outside the building (signal is very weak). <a href="#">Contact the library for a list of other places that offer wi-fi.</a>
<p><b>* These services require a reservation and a face mask. Please be on time for your reservation or notify us if you will be late. We can provide a mask if you do not have your own.</b></p>	

Kachemak Bay Campus, Friends of the Homer Library, and Pier One Theatre invite you to

# Second Sunday Shakespeare





THE  
Famous Historie of  
Troilus and Cressida.  
*Excellently expressing the beginning  
of their loves, with the conceited wooing  
of Pandarus Prince of Licia.*  
*Written by William Shakespeare.*  
  
LONDON  
Imprinted by G. Eld for R. Bonian and H. Walley, and  
are to be sold at the spread Eagle in Pauls  
Church-yard, over against the  
great North doore.  
1609.


## Troilus and Cressida

### Sunday, August 9th

beginning at 1:00 PM  
via ZOOM  
<https://alaska.zoom.us/j/92321508676>  
Online text available at  
<https://shakespeare.folger.edu/shakespeares-works/>  
Computer, mobile phone or landline call 907-235-1674  
with questions



UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual



For Troilus and Cressida, which is set during the Trojan war, Shakespeare drew from the works of Homer, who had influenced much of Greek and Latin literature with the Illiad and the Odyssey, as well as from Jeffrey Chaucer, who along with Canterbury Tales, wrote the great romance of the Trojan War, Troilus and Criseyde. However, in Shakespeare's version, which is noted as one of his "problem plays," no exemplars of heroism are to be found as they are in Homer or Chaucer. Rather, they might be seen today as diminished by the action and words of this play. Could this be an attack on the ideals of war that might cover for ones of greed, violence, and a thirst for conquest?

Come and decide for yourself this month!

## VOTE!

Friends of Homer Library proudly announces a writing contest to promote the idea of why voting is important to you.

In 300 words or less, express your ideas of why you feel that your vote

matters. How would you convince others that voting is important? This essay is strictly non-partisan. Papers that have a particular politicization are not allowed.

**You must be a resident of Alaska and be at least 12 years of age.**

We have prizes:

Adult prizes (ages 18-infinity)

1<sup>st</sup> place-\$50.00

2<sup>nd</sup> place-\$30.00

3<sup>rd</sup> place-20.00

Young people ( ages 12-17)

1<sup>st</sup> place-\$30.00

2<sup>nd</sup> place-\$20.00

3<sup>rd</sup> place -\$10.00

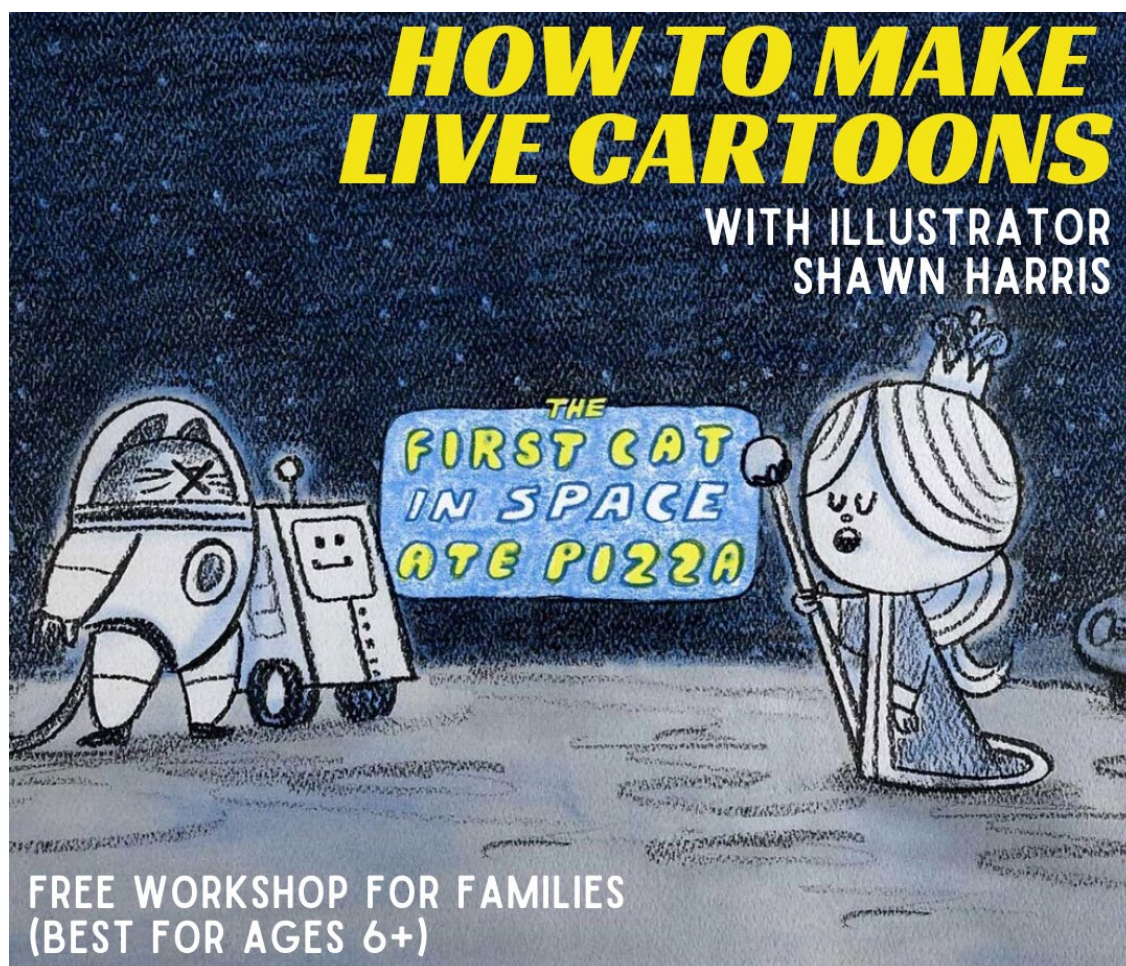
Submissions can be either sent electronically to [info@friendshomerlibrary.org](mailto:info@friendshomerlibrary.org) or mailed to Friends of the Library, 500 Hazel Ave., Homer, AK. 99603

All entries must be submitted no later than Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.

The winners will be contacted on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a possibility of your paper being printed or read to the public.

If you have questions, you could send them to [info@friendshomerlibrary.org](mailto:info@friendshomerlibrary.org)



MONDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 11AM-12PM VIA ZOOM

INFO & REGISTRATION (REQUIRED):

[WWW.CITYOFHOMER-AK.GOV/LIBRARY/SUMMER-HPL-2020](http://WWW.CITYOFHOMER-AK.GOV/LIBRARY/SUMMER-HPL-2020) || 907-235-3180





**Friends of the library volunteers hard at work on the west lot...possible home of a future amphitheater.**

## **Love Homer? Love your library?**

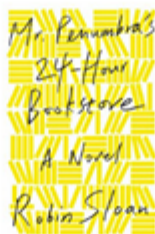
**Put that love into action by joining the Library Advisory Board (LAB). If you are a Homer resident, you could fill an open seat on the LAB to work with the Library Director on operational policies, budget, and recommendations to the City Council concerning top-quality library services in our area. You also will be an advocate to the community to ensure strong support for the library, the most public of public services. Homer has an award-winning first-class library. Join us to keep it that way and to help it grow into the future. For a modest commitment of one meeting nine times a year, you can make a big difference in our quality of life. Full details are available at <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/lab>. Apply at <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/bc/commissions-boards>.**



# Lit Lineup 2020

## Read 15 - Community Read

### Eye Opening



To place a hold or schedule pickups

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library>

907-235-3180

# Homer Public Library

## Computer and Printer Use

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Homer Public Library is open for limited computer use starting Wednesday May 20.

**Patrons will be admitted in small groups for 90 minute sessions for computer, printer, copier and scanner access.**

- Masks\* and reservations required.
- Print materials can be borrowed through curbside pickup.

**No mask? We'll give you one as you enter the library.**

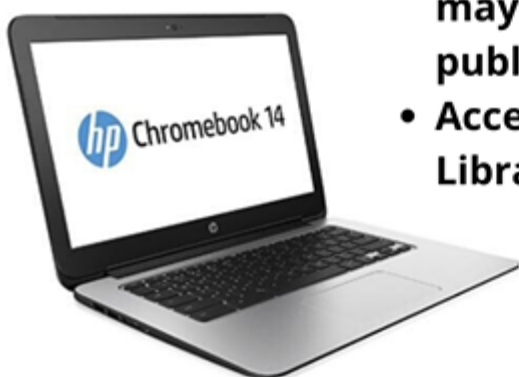
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**To schedule a reservation please call:  
235-3180**

**<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library>**

# NEW AT YOUR LIBRARY - CHROMEBOOKS



- Available for 2 week checkout
- Requires internet access but may be available through public wifi hotspots
- Access all Homer Public Library services including:
  - Alaska Digital Library
  - Lynda.com
  - Flipster.com



To place hold or schedule pickups

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library>  
235-3180



BOB the Bookmobile will be open on Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will be parked in the Library Parking Lot. **During these trying times, masks are required.**

While we focus on distributing free books for children and young adults, we also have lots of lovely free books for adults as well. Stop by and see what we have.

Have a small child or a baby on the way? We have free copies of Ann Keffer and Lyn Naden's beautiful Homer ABC books to hand out to every patron (get a jump on that upcoming baby shower gift basket!)



**Come by the library and take a stroll through the newly renovated Story Walk. The Story Walk was funded through a grant from the KLEP Fund of the Homer Foundation.**

**COME WALK A STORY!** Bring your whole family to the library's trail, read and interact with a new, fun picture book posted along our storywalk each month. Here are this summer's titles, which people of all ages will enjoy:

**August: Eye to Eye: How Animals See the World by Steve Jenkins**

This nonfiction picture book explains how animals use their eyes to take in

information about their world. Steve Jenkin's beautiful illustrations accompany a text explaining how animals over the last billion years have evolved a wide variety of eyes as well as a wide variety of how to use them. The illustrations alone are worth viewing. I learned a lot of new, surprising information from this book, which will appeal to all ages.

**September: TBA**



**KITS FOR LITTLES, KIDS & TEENS**  
AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP OR DOWNLOAD.  
NEW THEMES EVERY 2 WEEKS!

SUMMER@HPL PRESENTS:

# ACTIVITIES TO GO!

**HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library)  
907.235.3180





# SUMMER@HPL

Reading & Learning Program for Kids, Teens & Adults!

## Dig Deeper! Read, Investigate & Discover May 18 - August 15



- Digital reading and learning log
- Virtual programs for all ages
- Activities To Go! for families
- Virtual challenges to inspire offline play & exploration
- Themed reading lists for all ages
- Registration begins 5/5



**Homer Public  
Library**

Info & Registration at:  
[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library)  
907-235-3180



Summer@HPL

# Food for Kids & Teens

**Are you hungry?**

Free  
**grab & go bags**  
of non-perishable food for  
hungry and/or homeless  
**kids & teens**  
are available all summer.



**@ Homer Public Library**  
**(near the bookdrop, on side of building)**

Tuesdays - Saturdays  
May 19 - August 15

**Food DONATIONS** should be taken to the Homer Food Pantry



Homer Public Library  
[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library) || 907-235-3180

draw - write - speak  
your summer story

# HPL *kids* WRITE

for ages 10-13

Summer@HPL  
[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library)

## Youth Voice & HPL Kids Write

What inspires a story? Is it a hero, a drawing, an object on a shelf? HPL Kids Write connects young teens with each other while they respond to fun storytelling prompts created by Jason Reynolds, author and the current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. HPL Kids Write is an opportunity for kids & teens to craft stories in a fun, casual experience; helping them become stronger writers, using their unique voice, and appreciate the writing of others.

The Write.Right.Rite prompts Jason has created are short, but intimate, reflecting Jason's charm, humor and intelligence. The prompts include everything from designing a new tattoo or medal to writing the first line of a story. Teens ages 10-13 respond to a specific response, which changes every two weeks, and then meet up with other writers at a Zoom session every other week (hosted by librarian Claudia Haines).

Projects will also be uploaded to [Padlet, an online community gallery](#). Program is free and registration is necessary for the Zoom meetups. Find information here: <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library/hpl-kids-write>.

## September Book Sale!

The Friends of the Library are offering a one-day sidewalk book sale from 12-4 pm, Sat., Sept. 12 with a rain date Sat., Sept. 19. Look for details in the September FHL newsletter!

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# LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

## 2020 Meeting Calendar

	MEETING	AGENDA DEADLINE	ANNUAL TOPICS/EVENTS
<b>JANUARY</b>	No Meeting		
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, February 4	5:00 pm Wednesday, January 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Review of Library Fees, Policies, Rules &amp; Regs (Bylaws V.2)</li> <li>• Big Read</li> </ul>
<b>MARCH</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, March 3	5:00 pm Wednesday, February 26	
<b>APRIL</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, April 7	5:00 pm Wednesday, April 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Election of LAB Officers (Bylaws IV.1)</li> <li>• National Library Week</li> <li>• National Library Workers Day</li> <li>• Celebration of Lifelong Learning</li> </ul>
<b>MAY</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, May 5	5:00 pm Wednesday, April 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of Student Representative Term (Bylaws III.2)</li> <li>• Midyear Review of Annual LAB Priorities</li> <li>• National Library Legislative Day</li> </ul>
<b>JUNE</b>	No meeting		
<b>JULY</b>	No meeting		
<b>AUGUST</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, August 4	5:00 pm Wednesday, July 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Meeting (Bylaws V.3) *may not be applicable during non-budget years</li> </ul>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, September 1	5:00 pm Wednesday, August 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Meeting (Bylaws V.3) *may not be applicable during non-budget years</li> <li>• Beginning of Student Representative Term (Bylaws III.2)</li> <li>• Library Card Sign-up Month</li> </ul>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, October 6	5:00 pm Wednesday, September 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Friends of Libraries Week</li> </ul>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, November 3	5:00 pm Wednesday, October 28	
<b>DECEMBER</b>	5:30 pm Tuesday, December 1	5:00 pm Wednesday, November 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve Annual LAB Priorities</li> </ul>

**2020 HOMER CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS  
ADVISORY COMMISSION/ BOARD ATTENDANCE**

Commissions are invited to report to the City Council at the Council's regular meetings under Item 8 – Announcements/Presentations/Borough Report/Commission Reports. This is the Commission's opportunity to give Council a brief update on their work. Generally the Commissioner who will be reporting will attend one of the two meetings for the month they are scheduled to attend.

The 2020 meeting dates for City Council is as follows:

January 13, 27	<u>Kuszmaul</u>
February 10, 24	<u>Finn</u>
March 9, 23*	<u>Peterson</u>
April 13, 27	<u>Kuszmaul</u>
May 11, 26*	<u></u>
June 8, 22	<u></u>
July 27**	<u>Kuszmaul</u>
August 10, 24	<u>Finn</u>
September 14, 28	<u></u>
October 12, 26	<u></u>
November 23**	<u></u>
December 14, 21****	<u></u>

City Council's Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting at 5:00 pm to no later than 5:50 pm prior to every Regular Meeting which are held the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 pm.

\*Tuesday meeting due to Memorial Day/Seward's Day.

\*\* There will be no first regular meeting in July or November.

\*\*\*Council traditionally reschedules regular meetings that fall on holidays or high school graduation days, for the following Tuesday.

\*\*\*\*Council traditionally cancels the last regular meeting in December and holds the first regular meeting and one to two special meetings as needed. Generally the second special meeting the third week of December will not be held.