



TUALATIN LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 4, 2025

Present: Rachel Elliot, Dana Paulino, Ashley Payne, Nestor Sanchez, DeAnn Welker, Thea Wood

Absent: Paul Turnbach

Public:

Staff: Jerianne Thompson, Library Director
Sarah Jesudason, Library Public Services Manager

A. CALL TO ORDER

Dana Paulino called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Thea Wood moved to accept the January meeting minutes as written; Ashley Payne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Chair: None.

2. Staff: Jerianne Thompson welcomed new Committee member DeAnn Welker. Thompson reported that library management is beginning an organizational assessment to evaluate staffing in the department. The Library is now hosting a Digital Navigator twice per month in conjunction with Washington County Cooperative Library Services [WCCLS]. This grant-funded technology expert can help patrons with a variety of tech needs. The Parks and Recreation Department is hiding hundreds of hand-blown glass hearts throughout Tualatin parks and trails during the Share the Love event in February. Parks and Rec is also accepting entries in the Arbor Month Photo Contest for adults. Thompson shared recent usage statistics, reviewed quarterly program statistics, and read comment cards.

3. Teen Library Committee: Nestor Sanchez said that 31 teens attended the end-of-semester program last month. TLC is planning summer programs and recently had a new member join.

4. Public: None.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. WCCLS Funding & Governance Evaluation: Thompson reviewed the goals of WCCLS's project to evaluate public library services, funding, and governance countywide. This project will have implications for the next local option levy cycle and for the long-term future. WCCLS is facing budget challenges because of ongoing reductions in the Washington County General Fund. Member libraries are also facing competing demands for city general funds, and nonprofits are limited in their ability to raise revenues. WCCLS contributes about 70 percent of Tualatin Library's budget in this current fiscal year. At the Washington County Board of Commissioners work session on February 4, WCCLS presented three recommendations: Increase the local option levy rate by at least 10 cents (to 32 cents per \$1000 of assessed value); adopt base service levels, including Washington County funding 45 hours open per week at each library; and centralize collection management for all libraries. Centralizing collection management would reduce the need for this staffing work at the local library level, which could generate up to \$4 million in savings through staffing reductions. Thompson said library management does not yet know how these potential changes will directly impact Tualatin Library; however, she said Tualatin Library does not plan to cut hours nor reduce staff positions. The Board of Commissioners will consider the levy ballot measure this Spring. The next step in the evaluation project will be to establish metrics to allocate funding for member libraries. Committee members asked questions about the recommendations and asked for more information about options to raise additional revenues locally.

E. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Library Service Areas: Adults: Sarah Jesudason presented an overview of programs offered for adults at Tualatin Library. The Library's strategic goals – including to create opportunities for shared experiences and to offer opportunities to spark and nurture creativity – inform the “why” behind our adult programming. Feedback solicited from community members last year showed a desire for more opportunities for social connection. The Library has developed new programming to address this need, which has been successful. In last fiscal year, the Library offered 127 programs specifically for adults, attended by 2,566 people. The Library has had strong success with music programming offered through partnerships with local arts organizations.

2. User Surveys: This agenda item was tabled until March.

3. TLAC Annual Report: Thompson reviewed a draft outline for topics to include in the Committee's annual report to City Council. Sanchez recommended improvements for the Teen Room and asked whether there was potential to expand the Library. The draft report and presentation will be included in the March meeting packet.

F. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Library Service Areas
2. 2025-26 Library Budget

G. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

1. Members: None.

H. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

by Jerianne Thompson, Recording Secretary