

Library Advisory Board

A meeting of the Library Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. at the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library, 100 MLK Jr. Pkwy., Brenham, Texas.

Advisory Board Members present:

Lillian Marshall, Carol Kiphart, Jerry Jares, Lu Hollander, Janie Mehrens, Jody Tyson, and Renee Mueller

Advisory Board Members absent:

Keith Herring, Sabrina Roberts

City staff present:

Tammy Murphy, Susan Nienstedt, and Carolyn Miller

Others present

None

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Citizen and Visitor Comments A letter was read addressed to the Library Advisory Board from John Doss. Mr. Doss requested new books and other reserved books have a limit of one week check out. The Board advised a bookmark made or sign posted near the new books requesting patrons return soon so others can enjoy. Jody Tyson mentioned those not retired and living out in the county may not be able to read and return quickly. Janie Mehrens pointed out confusing for different due dates. Tammy Murphy was asked and answered that more comments were made about not being able to keep reserved books longer than three weeks have been reported than comments about shorter check out limits. The library will continue to research other libraries' new book policies.

3. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Approval of the Minutes from the August 18, 2021 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Jerry Jares and seconded by Lu Hollander to approve the Minutes from the August 18, 2021 regular meeting as corrected.

Vice President Renee Mueller called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

Chair Keith Herring	Absent
Board Member Lillian Marshall	Yes
Board Member Carol Kiphart	Yes
Board Member Jerry Jares	Yes
Board Member Sabrina Roberts	Absent
Board Member Jody Tyson	Yes
Board Member Janie Mehrens	Yes
Board Member Lu Hollander	Yes
Board Member Renee Mueller	Yes

4. Presentation and Discussion of Librarian Search Process

Interim City Manager Carolyn Miller announced Susan Nienstedt will be leading the library as the City Supervisor, and Susan presented the update for the Librarian Search Process. A committee of community members conducted four interviews on October 1, 2021. A final round of interviews with the top two candidates was conducted by city staff. An announcement should be made of their choice by early November. Renee Mueller asked who would make the decision, and Susan answered Carolyn Mueller, Susan Cates, and herself. Carol Kiphart asked where they were from, and Susan Nienstedt answered Texas.

5. Presentation and Update of Board Appointments and Reappointments.

Presenter Jeana Bellinger was unable to attend so Susan Nienstedt read information that was relayed to her from Jeana. Term limits for all board members will not be ending December 31, 2021. A committee is addressing the various ordinances and will consider how long the terms will be in the future. There was a discussion of term limit changes the Fortnightly Club and the Advisory Board have made over the years. Janie Mehrens made the statement with other Fortnightly Members in agreement that the Fortnightly Club prefers three year terms that are staggered among members. Lu Hollander proposed the Board be updated about the term limits at the December 15, 2021 meeting and Christmas Social.

6. Presentation and Discussion of Proposed Donation Fund Expenditures

Interim Librarian Tammy Murphy stated the library purchased an archival acrylic vitrine from Vendor Gaylord to display and protect the antique tapestry. The city maintenance department will be installing it within the next few weeks. Murphy also stated that that the library used donation funds to purchase an archival scanner chosen by the Advisory Board committee of Janie Mehrens, Jerry Jares, and Jody Tyson along with input from IT director Kevin Schmidt, Tony Tavery, and Misti Rudloff. The Crowley Company will install the scanner and provide staff training before it is available to the community. Library Staff will write a Use of Scanner Policy for the Library. The last expenditure discussed by Tammy was the tabletop flip display for exhibiting items of Fortnightly and the Library. It is being assembled and will be displayed on the antique table from the original library.

7. Presentation and Update of The Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Interim Librarian Tammy Murphy announced that 54 children from zero months to four years old living in zip code 77833 have registered for the Imagination Library. Murphy stated the participants will receive an age-appropriate book each month at their home for as long as the program has continuing donations or the child turns five years old. The program currently has funds raised by the Brenham High School National Honor Society to pay for 75 children for two years. Renee Mueller suggested taking flyers to the hospital for new parents.

8. Administrative Report

Interim Librarian Tammy Murphy provided the library program report for the last two months. In addition, Murphy provided the following statistics about the Library.

- The library has 31,733 library card holders with 45,027 visits to the library.
- > 84,932 items checked out this year along with 7,029 computer uses.
- > Our ebook circulation has increased to 13,402

Meeting adjourned.

Kelth Herring Renee Ann Mueller

Vill Chair Person

ATTEST:

Tammy Murphy

Staff Liaison