

City of St. Helens
Library Board
Minutes from Monday, July 8, 2019
St. Helens Public Library

Members Present

Heather Anderson-Bibler, Vice Chair
Lisa Beardslee
Patrick Birkle
Melisa Gaelrun-Maggi
Amanda Heynemann, Chair

Members Absent

Becky Bean

Guests

Councilors in Attendance

Stephen Topaz

Staff Present

Margaret Jeffries, Library Director
Dan Dieter, Library Board Secretary



CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:18pm by Chair Heynemann.

INVITATION TO CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Minutes were reviewed, and approved with two corrections noted.

LIBRARY BOARD VACANCIES: Chair Heynemann reported that she and Member Gaelrun-Maggi met with prospective board members Dan Davis and Marjorie Stanko. Both candidates were recommended by the Board be presented to the City Council for approval. Vote was unanimous. Director Jeffries asked if the candidates were asked about sub-committee placement. The candidates will be given an opportunity to choose.

BOOK CLUB UPDATE: Member Gaelrun-Maggi reported that the theme for the July 30th meeting will be 'Summer'. Upcoming themes are 'Southern Authors' for the September meeting, and 'Murder Mystery' for the November meeting. All of the Book Club themes for 2020 have been presented to Library Assistant Burkhardt for flyer creation. The group discussed the old language on the book mark that stated 'snacks and drinks' would be available. The group has agreed to move away from that convention in the future.

MUNICIPAL CODE CHANGES: This item will be tabled until next month.

CITY COUNCILOR'S REPORT: Councilor Topaz reported that the City's budget discussions are beginning, and so far they have not been very detailed. The Budget Committee has also asked for more detail, as the level of detail in the budget discussions is a change in practice from years past. Member Birkle stated that this year's discussions are different and there are fewer meetings scheduled. Director Jeffries stated that in years past there were more 'opportunities' to consider and that this year there are fewer.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Jeffries reported that the LSTA Catalog Merger grant ended 6/30/2019 and the St Helens and Scappoose Libraries are still working on the final reporting. One thing that was promised for the grant was a survey of patrons about the merged catalog. The survey is finished and the number of online submissions was the same as the number of paper submissions. The results of the survey were distributed to the group.

The survey results listed 68 respondents, 34 replied online and 34 replied on paper. 148 Scappoose residents have come to St Helens for a passport card since it has been offered. Respondents indicated that their home library was as follows: 51 as St Helens, 15 as Scappoose, and 2 as 'other'. 46 respondents knew that their card can be used at the neighboring library (22 did not). 30 respondents indicated that they have a card at both libraries (38 did not). 32 respondents indicated that they have gone to the neighboring library to check out materials (36 did not). 43 respondents indicated that they used their library's online catalog to search for materials (25 did not). 47 respondents knew that the libraries combined their catalogs in December 2018 (21 did not). 11 respondents found the combined catalog easier to use, 19 found it the same, 11 found it more difficult and 18 indicated that they don't use the catalog to search. 24 respondents indicated they were able to find more access to information in the combined catalog, and 21 indicated that it was the same. 28 respondents indicated that they were satisfied with finding information in the combined catalog, 16 indicated that it was the same, and 2 indicated that they were unsatisfied.

The online survey responses included comments, which ranged from requests for a courier service between St Helens and Scappoose, to confusion about the way catalog search results are shown. The group discussed the results and the comments that were submitted with the online responses. The group discussed different options for a courier service, as that was mentioned in a number of responses. The group discussed one of the response comments about how Warren is not within either library system.

Director Jeffries and Scappoose Library Director Jeff Weiss have been discussing ideas about how to make the searching easier. There are details within the individual catalog entries when an item is placed into the systems that are different between the two libraries. Aligning these entries will help correct the items searched for. Going

forward, there is a possibility that Clatskanie and Vernonia might be interested in joining the combined catalog. Director Jeffries also stated that the Scappoose Library has a higher overall Passport card circulation between the two libraries than St Helens does. Member Anderson-Bibler asked about using volunteers for a courier service, but the need for bonding and insurance might be a limiting factor. Councilor Topaz agreed that there would be obstacles such as procedures, logistics and funding. The group discussed the differences between the libraries and the need to resolve issues before effectively moving forward. Member Anderson-Bibler noted that at least all of the responses were helpful and no one stated 'don't do this'. Member Gaelrun-Maggi stated that we should continue to educate patrons on how the system works. Director Jeffries noted that there were many comments about ebooks being included in the search results. Ebook users seem pleased to have these resources listed in the search results while non-ebook users felt they cluttered the search results.

Director Jeffries stated that the catalog system is now on the 'cloud' and as such, regular software updates are automatic, so making changes to the system is much better than it used to be. All of the software is on The Library Corporation's (TLC) servers, which makes it faster and more efficient. It also removes the expense of maintaining our own equipment.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS: Member Anderson-Bibler reported that the Washington Library Association / Oregon Library Association conference was well attended. She attended the session on working with patrons experiencing homelessness, and picked up a copy of the presenter's book on how to deal with the homeless population and how to enforce rules equitably among a varied population. Director Jeffries reported that Library Technician Woodruff recently attended the Community Action Team (CAT) roundtable, where their new facility was discussed. Perhaps we can get an updated list of service facilities for the various populations. Councilor Topaz stated that some of the homeless are coming from farther away. Member Anderson-Bibler also stated that she attended sessions on collaborative library outreach and leading through change.

SUMMARIZE ACTION ITEMS: No report available.

NEXT MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, August 12, 2019 at 7:15 p.m. in the Columbia Center Auditorium.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Heynemann adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

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Respectfully submitted by:

Library Board Secretary, Dan Dieter

2019-2020 Library Board Attendance Record

P=Present E=Excused Absence U=Unexcused Absence

Date	Anderson-Bibler	Bean	Beardslee	Birkle	Davis	Gaelrun-Maggi	Heynemann	Stanko	VACANT
07-08-2019	P	E	P	P	-	P	P	-	
08-12-2019									
09-09-2019									
10-14-2019									
11-12-2019									
12-09-2019									
01-13-2020									
02-10-2020									
03-09-2020									
04-13-2020									
05-11-2020									
06-08-2020									