

Sitka Public Library Commission Minutes

March 2, 2022

In-Person Meeting at Harrigan Centennial Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chair, Nicole Filipek. The Chair mentioned that this was our first In-Person only meeting in 2 years.

Roll Call

Present: Nicole Filipek (Chair), Jessica Ieremia (Library Director), Dave Miller (Assembly Liaison), Jeff Budd (Commissioner), Margie Esquiro (Commissioner), Tommy Martin (Commissioner)

Absent: Darryl Rehkopf (Commissioner) excused

Stephen Morse's term on the Commission expired on 2-28-22 and he did not reapply.

Public Comment: *No members of the public present*

Approval of the Agenda - No changes made, Agenda approved

Approval of previous Minutes from February 2, 2022 meeting - M/S by Jeff and Margie that we push the Approval of the Minutes of February 2, 2022 to the April 6, 2022 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Jessica Ieremia (Library Director)

- Library use numbers are climbing, they are similar to pre-Pandemic numbers. Check outs and holds are down a bit but more people are coming to the library and using our services.
- Since the 3 day Library closure for maintenance the Library looks great! Everything is shiny and bright. The crawl through space (the tube) into the Children's Room has been removed and the Seed Library will go in that space. There will be space for coats inside the Children's Room and it is being "zoned" so that it is more user friendly, making parent interaction easier.
- The Friends were in full agreement with our suggestions for use of the Marjorie (Marge) Ward donation. The bulk of the money will go into the Endowment Fund for future use. Jess will work on a budget for the following items first: trees and/or plants to attract more birds, viewing telescopes with tripods for bird watching, kids' binoculars, birdbath, bird feeders (during the winter only). Jess will contact the City regarding maintenance of any plants/planters or changes made to the landscape before we decide on purchases. Maybe the Endowment can pay for the upkeep. There is talk among the staff of a kid's program around plants and gardening that could tie into this area as well as involvement from the local gardening community.
- The Library Endowment money gives us more options. The interest can be spent every year. We do have a Roe Fund for early literacy and youth only.
- White E grant of \$2,000 was awarded for DVDs.
- *Kanopy* streaming service is up and ready for patrons to use at home. Patrons have unlimited credits. They can stream from a large selection of content (over 30,000 titles) with just a Library card and pin number. Information is on the Library's Facebook page. There is a large amount of kid's content available, and it can be controlled by parents. We have aid for unlimited credit from our Easy ARPA federal grant money that needs to be spent by September 2022. If people use it and like it then it will be budgeted yearly. \$3,000 a year should be good for community of our size.
- IT believes that between *Cassie* and *Microsoft* the Library computers should be locked down. As of today computers were still not up and ready. Patrons have complained about the lack of tech services/number of available computers. There are no library laptops yet.
- "Read with a Ranger" program is going well, but it is only a 3 class series. It will end on March 19th. "Grab 'n Go" for preschoolers continues to be successful. Armchair Travel Series continues and may be in person soon.
- Peeps Diorama Contest is open. Community will vote on the winners

- John Straley will be giving and author talk on March 10th
- CBS will be doing a Job Fair at the library on March 14th
- Chess table is set up and being used, Puzzle table is also in use, and 2 large chairs were removed.
- 2 new temporary hires are doing really well.
- Jess felt that the Leadership Training that she attended was helpful.

Dave Miller (Assembly Liaison) – Dave will look into the Library tech issues

Friends Liaison (Jeff Budd) - everything is going well

Library Centennial Planning (Jess & Margie)

- Kari & Jess are working on a survey to send to patrons to get an idea of what people are interested in doing to celebrate 100 years and would attend.
- Walking Tour of all the spaces that have housed the library is being developed by Bill Foster with help from Martina Kruzer. They are working on a booklet, the tour route, and hope to have tours start in May on Sundays. Tours would be by donation, and limited to groups of 6-10.
- Jess shared the Logo that has been developed by Seaweed Studio. Suggestions were made for some minor changes namely reducing the number of whales as it seemed too crowded. Now we are waiting for color suggestions. Money from Friends (\$1,200) is earmarked to pay for this.

Break from 7:05 p.m. to 7:17 p.m.

- Spelling Bee will be on March 23rd with prizes of \$100 for 1st, \$75 for 2nd, and \$50 for 3rd place. It is a fundraiser for the 100th Year Celebration.

New Business

- Library Exhibit Policy & Temporary Exhibit Loan Agreement was reviewed:
M/S by Jeff and Tommy to approve the Library Exhibit Policy and Guidelines Draft as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.
M/S by Jeff and Nicole to approve the Loan Agreement Temporary Exhibit.
Motion passed unanimously.
- Collection Development Policy Revisions – There is no approval date on the current policy. Our InterLibrary Grant requests that library policies be reviewed periodically. Jess made some minor revisions to update the policy and we discussed the book challenging process.
M/S by Margie and Tommy to approve the updated Collection Development Policy with changes made to pronouns (use of “they” throughout instead of “he” or “she”). Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business - Discussion/Direction on advocating for resolution of technology and service issues – no computers at the Library for over a month is unacceptable for a modern library.

Announcements - Margie brought up the possibility of Sandy Fontaine as a Library Commissioner. She should be encouraged to apply. Margie also mentioned that Curt Ledford’s family has suggested and is collecting money for a bench in his honor to be placed in the Library grounds.

Items for the next month’s agenda – Continued talk of Marge Ward donation; revisit IT issues; and the possibility of a bench for Curt Ledford.

Public Comment: No members of the public present

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Margie Esquiro, Secretary (Track 49)