

Bastrop Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2021

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Members present were President Mary Jo Jenkins, *Jamie* Jaime McDonald, Rebecca Bennett, Barbara Clemons, Sally Keinarth, Jennifer Leisure, and Director Bonnie Pierson.

Citizen Comments:

There were none.

Announcements:

The Library will be closed on Labor Day. The Board will meet Sept. 13.

Staff Report:

Activities -

Director Bonnie Pierson highlighted items that appear in the Board Packet. Use of the self-check out was up in June (1204) from May (476). In the past, the emphasis on Summer Reading has been to enroll as many patrons as possible. However, since 2018, the emphasis has moved to encouraging enrollees to complete the program. In 2019, the completion rate was 38%; this year it is 53%, a significant increase. Coffee with Catherine was virtual during the pandemic. It moved to in-person in mid-June and has steadily grown. There were 17 participants last week. Ashley Guerrero will return from maternity leave in September. Thirty-three people have applied for the job of Executive Administrative Assistant to the Director. Interviews begin Thursday. The new patron counter was installed. Data include an average of 179 patrons a day and 1113 per month. In July, the Library saw 5562 patrons. Bonnie Pierson has met with Texas Master Naturalist, and they will install a pollinator garden outside the children's area. The City Boards and Volunteer Banquet has been rescheduled to Oct. 14 because of a conflict.

Friends of the Library –

The Friends will hold a book sale Sept. 24-25.

Statistical Report –

No discussion.

Financial Report –

The Library has collected \$26,440 in non-residents fees this fiscal year. New non-resident cards total 292 and renewals total 667 through June. There are 216 new resident cards and 463 renewals in the same period.

Report on current grants –

The Cares grant will be completed at the end of September. The Library has surveyed patrons about the self-check out and mobile check out. Returned surveys total 267. Most were very positive. Regarding the Hanschel grant, the wifi in the parking lot is working. There was a great deal of usage on Sunday. The mobile hot spots are ready for check out, which begins next Thursday.

Consent Agenda:

Barbara Clemons moved and Sally Keinarth seconded to approve the June 7, 2021 minutes as written. The motion carried.

Items for Individual Consideration and Discussion:

Library Open House –

Because of personnel changes, the Library staff will need help from the Board planning the event, which is scheduled for Dec. 11. Sally Keinarth and Jennifer Leisure volunteered to call performers; Barbara Clemons volunteered to call cookie donors; Jaime and Becky volunteered to make the gingerbread houses. All plans are subject to change because of the pandemic.

Updates:

There were none.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted _____

Rebecca Bennett

Rebecca Bennett, Secretary

Approved _____

~~Mary Jo Jenkins, President~~

Barbara Clemons, Vice President

Barbara Clemons