

Action Minutes
Library Advisory Board Meeting
160 W Central Ave, Coolidge, AZ 85128
March 15, 2018

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Ralph at 6:05 PM

ATTENDED: Julie Brown
Brenda Mitchell
Ralph Swain
Olan Williams

ABSENT: Rod Gipson
Andrea Hille-Andrew
Larry Gallaher

STAFF: Joyce Baker

PUBLIC:

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were distributed. Olan moved that minutes be approved. Brenda seconded it. Motion carried.

Reports

Joyce Baker presented the Library Manager's Report.

Joyce said visits were up due to the winter visitors. However, construction on Central Avenue in front of the library is affecting foot traffic right now. Construction should be finished in four to six weeks.

New Business

Review of Grant Proposal

Joyce has wanted to turn the children's room into an interactive play area for families for a long time so people would do more than just pick up books and movies then leave. Joyce envisioned parents engaging in an educational activity with their children. This would give parents the confidence to be their children's early teachers. Studies show that imaginative play is good for child development.

Families that do not have custody of their kids also use the library as a space to be with their children. Joyce would like to have activities for these parents so that they can play with their children during their visitation time.

Joyce envisioned putting in play tables that would allow parents and children to interact. She showed the table prototypes to the Friends of the Library but they thought the tables were too expensive. Each table costs \$2,000. Instead, she is buying the tables through the grant. There will also be a seating area for adults to sit and chitchat and an area for children to play together. Brenda suggested that we put some instructions for the activities to help the parents know how to use the resources with the children. Joyce said the grant would also include other manipulative toys such as beads, legos, and blocks. Joyce said she also saw a large train table recently that she might be able to incorporate into the space.

Ralph asked how much money would be awarded through the grant. The grant application is for \$15,000 and the State will notify grant winners by May 1.

Review of Study Room Reservation System

The study room was used 57 times in January and 49 times in February. The mayor happened to stop by when people were using the room. He was pleasantly surprised to realize how much the public uses the space. The reservation system is working well. The Advisory Board was satisfied with the current usage and agreed there was not any need to change the way people reserve the room.

Discussion of Room for Desk Space for Patrons to do Paperwork

Joyce said that we occasionally have patrons who need sit down to fill out paperwork. Patrons can use the Study Room or the high desks in the teen area if they want a space to sit at a table while they complete paperwork. They also can move a laptop out of the way a use a workstation. However, one patron has expressed a desire for more space in the adult area free of computers where people can sit down and write.

Joyce asked if the board to recommend removing some of the laptops so that there would be space in the adult area. The board discussed removing two laptops from the alcove. Joyce said those computers were slower than the computers near the restrooms that are hard-wired to the internet.

Brenda made a motion that we remove two laptops from the alcove to free up desk space for patrons. Julie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discuss practical ways the library could implement 2018 goals recommended by Advisory Board including reaching out into the community to partner with other community groups.

Discussion centered on the fact that the programming room is used only by the library and events sponsored by the library. Outside groups can use the programming room only if the event is within the mission of the library and are in partnership with the library or sponsored by the library.

Ralph asked for clarification on how library staff decides to partner with an organization. If outside organizations request to have events in the library, Joyce and/or Lanita discuss whether the event is within the scope of the library mission. Does

it promote literacy? Does it expand community knowledge? Does it help members of the community discover the joy of learning? Is it a partnership with our affiliates, such as Arizona @ Work? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then we explore ways to collaborate with that community group.

However, the library keeps the room busy enough that we do not have the space to allow community groups to use the room independent of a library partnership. Therefore, the library certainly wants to have a goal of reaching out to other community groups, but they would only want to do so in partnership arrangements.

Update on Summer Reading Program Plans

Joyce passed out a rough draft of the calendar for the June and July summer reading program. She highlighted some of the upcoming events. Last summer there was a week of Harry Potter family activities. This year, there will be "Frankenstein Unplugged," celebrating 200 years since Frankenstein was published. Adulting 101 will be a new feature for teens and young adults on Wednesdays. It will cover topics such as how to balance your bank account, how to maintain your car, etc.

The Kick-off party will be May 30 and End-of-Summer Reading Party will be July 19. A community baby shower is scheduled for July 14. Families can come get information about local early-childhood services. There could be a clothing exchange and diapers available as well.

Discussion of any proposed service changes

No one had any changes they wanted to suggest.

Call to Board

Call to the Public

Next Meeting Date: May 17, 2018, at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment

Ralph moved to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. Brenda seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.