

Library Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2024

In Attendance: Ron Becker, Nancy Cote, Nicholas Pacini, Renee Tyner, Jayne Brewin, Joyce Haasnoot, Joan Nelson Hook, Lewis Curtwright (Via Microsoft Teams), and Andi Figart.

- I. **Call to Order:** 9:36 a.m. by Ron Becker. A quorum was met.
- II. **Minutes:** The May 2024 minutes were unanimously accepted.
- III. **Public Comment:** None
- IV. **Officer/Committee Reports:**
 - Pasco County Library Advisory Board & Library Cooperative (Ron Becker)
 - There were no new updates as the Pasco Cooperative does not meet in the summer.
 - The Friends of the New Port Richey Library (Nancy Cote)
 - Nancy updated the Board on the Friends of the Library Masquerade Ball scheduled in October during the city centennial celebration. Tickets are almost sold out.
 - Library Director's Update (Andrea Figart)
 - Director Figart provided the Board with updates on summer programming, including the film festival and the summer reading challenge. Additionally, she shared news about recent staff hires, announcing that Tori Ladd will be joining as the new Program Specialist. Director Figart also highlighted the inflation calculator available on the Division of Library and Information Services (DLIS) website, which can be used to compare the yearly cost increases for books and resources.
- V. **Continuing Business:**
 - The Little Free Libraries are still doing well, and books are always needed. If anyone has space to store books, let FOL know, as their current storage space is limited.
 - Bonnie Martin gave updates on the City Centennial planning. Events are being solidified and will be added to the city calendar.
 - Nicholas Pacini reviewed the social media statistics. Despite the city's social media policy limiting interaction with the public, statistics have remained strong.
- VI. **New Business:**
 - Director Figart informed the board that the library received \$14,869 in state aid from the DLIS for this year. Director Figart explained how the dollar amounts are determined for annual state aid. In the past, libraries received as much as 25 cents for every dollar in their operating budget. However, this amount has decreased over the years and is currently just over a penny per dollar. State aid is prioritized, with the first allocation to low-income libraries and cooperatives. The remaining funds are then distributed to individual libraries.

- Director Figart informed the Board that Governor DeSantis vetoed the \$50,000 appropriations requested in the Florida fiscal year 2025 budget for the mobile library branch- despite passing in both the Florida Senate and House.
- Budget work sessions for the operational budgets for each city department will begin in July. The library will be presenting its budget on July 23rd. Funding for the mobile library branch will be included in the request.

VII. Communications:

- The next meeting will be August 26th at 9:30 a.m. at the library.

VIII. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.