

Library Advisory Board Meeting January 23, 2023

In Attendance: Joan Hook, Nancy Cote, Jayne Brewin, Ron Becker, Bonnie Martin, Nicholas Pacini and Andi Figart. Guests: Tomás Monzon, Information Specialist II, and Renee Tyner, retired teacher

- I. **Call to Order:** 9:32 a.m. by Chair Ron Becker. A quorum was met.
- II. **Minutes:** The November minutes were unanimously accepted.
- III. **Public Comment:** None
- IV. **Officer/Committee Reports:**

A. Pasco County Library Advisory Board & Library Cooperative Board (Ron Becker)

- Lobbying of Florida state senators and representatives will be March 21-22, 2023, in Tallahassee with funds available to offset travel expenses. We are encouraged to meet individually with these representatives in their local offices as well. Bonnie Martin expressed interest in attendance
- Pasco County Library Advisory Board members will tour our library on March 31 along with other libraries in West Pasco County including Centennial, South Holiday and Hudson branches. The Regency branch is now closed for renovations for 14-18 months. East Pasco branches will be toured on February 24. The County has hired two new library staffers including Elaine Smith who is the new Program Director for major events at the Starkey branch.

B. The Friends of the New Port Richey Library (Bonnie Martin)

- Planning continues for the Library Lover's Ball (February 9, 2023, gala). This fund-raising effort centers on obtaining a bookmobile.

C. Library Director's Update (Andi Figart)

- The Library Director announced that there are two seats available on this Library Advisory Board, both of which need to be filled by New Port Richey city residents—Guest Renee Tyner is a possible candidate.
- The Library Director stated that library staff now has automated badges to access doors throughout the library and are beta testing new online time cards
- The Library Director introduced new staff member Tomás Monzon, Information Assistant II who started November 30 and is responsible for library events, Literacy for Life and is Volunteer Coordinator.
- The Library Director said that the state aid application required changes in how library statistics are collected for FY2022; no funding will be available for 2023 LSTA grants; 2023 operational grants will continue/cooperatives will be funded/university, college and rural grants will continue, as well as the electronic database funding.

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V. Continuing Business:

- The library's Strategic Plan programming is being implemented
- There are two open positions on the Library Advisory Board—applicants are encouraged to apply and must live within the New Port Richey city limits. Renee Tyner is a possible candidate who attended her first meeting today.
- The Little Free Library funded by NPR Friends of the Library is being painted by the Public Works Department and will be installed in the James E. Grey Preserve soon. An additional Little Free Library has been completed and can be viewed in the Library Director's office.

VI. New Business: Nick Pacini distributed a new Social Media report and discussed its implications and will compare future monthly progress.

VII. Other

- The next meeting will be February 27, 2023, at 9:30 am at the library.
- Bonnie Martin requested information on the \$80K which was transferred from the library budget in December to the City of New Port Richey's General Fund for unused staffing salaries—the Library Director replied that the same salary line item was reinstated—but the \$80K was not included.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Cote

Nancy M. Cote, Secretary