

# Library Advisory Board Meeting

## March 28, 2022

**In Attendance:** Peter Segall, Joan Hook, Nancy Cote, Bonnie Martin, Marci Mihall, Ron Becker, and Andi Figart. **Guest:** Debbie Manns, City Manager

**I. Call to Order:** 9:30 a.m. by Chairwoman Joan Hook. A quorum was met.

**II. Minutes:** The minutes were unanimously accepted.

**III. Public Comment:** none

**IV. Officer/Committee Report:**

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

- Library Advocacy Week - no real change for libraries
- National Library Week - the Cooperative will concentrate on County Commissioners.
- It was suggested to the City Manager that the City may want to seek funding for special projects by contacting Congressional representatives.
- The County needs funding for Hudson and Regency Libraries.
- A new library will be built on the east side of the county.
- The Pasco 2050 long-range plan will be developed and the Cooperative hopes to have support for libraries written into the final plan.

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

- Wish lists were requested by new funding sources. A general list was provided to the FOL by the Library Director and request letters were sent to the organizations.
- A Library staff member will be a guest at the FOL meetings so FOL and staff can continue to develop a strong relationship.
- Last month the FOL Board members sent letters to lawmakers requesting legislative support for libraries.
- FOL is providing tote bags to Tasty Tuesday participants.
- FOL is collaborating with Main St. to promote the Library and the FOL business members.

C. Library Director's Update (Andi Figart) -

- This year's summer reading challenge theme is Creating Kindness.
- Debbie Rusch has been hired as the Library's new Resource Management Librarian, aka as the Cataloging Librarian. She has over 10 yrs professional cataloging experience in academic libraries and has in-depth cataloging experience with DD and LC systems as well as original and copy cataloging. She previously lived in Lakeland and moved into the City to accept the position.
- National Library Week is April 4th - 10th. On April 5th, a proclamation will be read at the City Council Meeting and Peter Segall will be considered for reappointment to the Board. All are invited to attend to show their support!
- A \$6,500 grant was received for Tasty Tuesday to offset the CoVid19 impact.
- There were two incidents at the Library recently and both the EMS and Police Depts. did an excellent job at responding quickly and professionally.
- Solar Edge, the solar energy program on the Library rooftop, was reviewed. Andi presented an analysis of the energy usage and how successfully it is working.
- The Library received operational grant funding from the Dept of State totaling just over \$17,000.

- An RFQ was submitted for a Library Strategic Planning Consultant. Funding from the Operating Grant will be used to pay for the position. The consultant will help with the planning process and written plan which will be proposed to the City Council. This is a requirement of various types of grant applications.
- New programming is being added to the Library offerings (HERO, Gutentag, and more) and the Library is partnering with the Pinellas Urban League for their Senior Jobs Pogram.
- The Library has received 75 Chromebook Kits, purchased as a result of the ECF Federal Grant Award. These laptops and their hotspots will be on loan beginning next month. Members can borrow one per family, and they must sign a borrowing agreement. If they are not returned in 3 weeks, the screens are automatically shut down by the Library.

#### **V. Continuing Business:**

##### A. Library Renovations Update:

- New signage both outside and inside the rooms has been installed and is useful in delineating specific areas as well as providing directional information.
- Vestibule doors have been installed and work on the terrazzo floors will start tomorrow.
- The Library is still waiting for furniture, technology, and the access systems for staff badges.

##### B. Little Free Libraries:

The first Little Free Library installed in Jasmin Park is doing well, with local residents maintaining it with books. The City Manager expressed her appreciation for the work and craftsmanship that went into building it. She expressed concerns that discussions and planning take place to ensure the success of future Little Free Libraries. Considerations will include neighborhood vs. park installations and the City's desire for each Little Free Library design to match the look of various locations. There is concern that the libraries are maintained, durable, match the tone of the location, and are visually appealing and attractive additions to each area. A blurb in *The Bridge* will inquire about interest from neighborhoods. The neighboring residents and volunteers from various organizations would be needed to ensure the continuing success of this community-wide initiative.

- ##### C.
- The rewritten Collection Development Policy was reviewed. This new version includes the suggestion made by the LAB about the various ways the form can be submitted to the Library. The LAB motioned to accept and then unanimously approved the new policy.

#### **VI. New Business:**

- ##### A.
- Peter Segall's reacceptance to the LAB was submitted and approved by the LAB for City Council confirmation. It will be on the 4/5/22 Council agenda.
- ##### B.
- A Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be hosted by the City of New Port Richey on April 27th. The LAB has been invited.

**VI. Next Meeting:** April 25, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. in the Library's Magnolia Room.

**Adjourn:** By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bonnie M. Martin*

Bonnie M. Martin, Secretary