

Auburn Public Library Advisory Board Minutes from October 18, 2022

The Auburn Public Library Advisory Board met at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, in the Library Program Room. The following individuals were present:

Board Members	Marcia Boosinger, Chair Bonnie MacEwan, Vice Chair Betty Burgess Daniel Surry
APL Staff	Tyler W. Whitten, Library Director Ashley Brown, Public Services Librarian Manager Leslie Johnston, Collection Development Librarian Cynthia Ledbetter, Engagement and Outreach Librarian Brandon Rowland, Digital Services Librarian

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Boosinger at 10:06 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The minutes of the September 20, 2022, meeting were distributed to Board members in advance of today's meeting. Burgess moved to approve the minutes as written. Surry seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

- There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Whitten included two thank you notes received by Library staff.
 - Engagement and Outreach Librarian Cynthia Ledbetter received a thank you note from author Lisa McNair who spoke to audiences at the Boykin Community Center and at the Auburn Public Library about her book *Dear Denise: Letters to the Sister I Never Knew*.
 - Boosinger, who attended McNair's talk at the Boykin Center, noted the quality of the program and the great turnout. There were approximately 100 attendees between the two locations.
 - Public Services Librarian Manager Ashley Brown shared an anecdote from a patron whose son recently joined the Teen Advisory Board. The patron spoke of the Library's importance in their lives throughout her son's youth.

LIBRARY SERVICES PRESENTATION

- Digital Services Librarian Brandon Rowland discussed complex licensing models the Library must navigate in the process of making digital resources, such as eBooks, available to the community.
 - Licensing procedures vary by publisher, with models including perpetual licensing and metered licensing.
 - Within the metered licensing model, different regulations exist, with some based on number of checkouts, some based on time elapsed, and some based on libraries paying a rental charge for each checkout.
 - Publishers are uneasy with library lending of eBooks and the perceived negative impact access has on revenues, leading to price increases and further complication of lending models.
 - As a result, older titles from popular authors may not be practical purchases due to cost.
 - Forces within the library community are pushing back on publishers to address inequities and confusion being created by the licensing models.
 - Rowland provided statistical information related to the Library's program.
- Rowland's remarks were supplemented by the article "Librarians and lawmakers push for greater access to e-books" by Caitlin Dewey (Stateline.org).
- Board members discussed the extent of profits for publishers under current models but acknowledged and applauded the increased information being made available to the public.
- Board members also acknowledged that, despite complexities, the eBook lending program provides a good value for the investment.
- MacEwan called attention to the possible impact of pay-per-use models on the right of first use and constitutional protections and noted that in the tension between protecting rights and providing service the Library has made a reasonable choice to provide service.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- There were none.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- Board members reviewed the article "Wellington Board of Trustees takes action against book bans in the town's public library" by Bethany Osborn (Fort Collins Coloradoan)
- Board members noted that they believe the Auburn Public Library enjoys support similar to the community support described in the article.
- Board members noted the quality of service provided at Thach Avenue and at the Boykin Center, the well-attended programming, and the nature of the community.
- Board members agreed to continue making community connections as opportunities arise.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL MASTER PLAN

- Whitten provided an update on progress associated with the branch library being developed as part of the City's Boykin-Donahue campus, including the 20,000

square foot floor plan and proposed furnishings and fixtures, including item display units, smart boards in study rooms and ample Wi-Fi.

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Whitten and the Library Management Team provided a statistical report for September 2022 and FY2022.
 - Whitten mentioned that FY2022 was the Library's first to exceed 500,000 (a half-million) circulations.
- Whitten provided an overview of the Mission Alignment Plan, featuring the projects to be completed during the first twelve weeks of FY2023 (October – December).
 - Projects will remain in alignment with the areas of focus and strategies outlined in the FY2021-2024 strategic plan.
 - Throughout the year, each twelve-week period will feature new projects that respect current and emerging needs.
- Whitten and the Library Management Team presented financial highlights for FY2023 in the areas of general budgeting, collections, programs & outreach, and services.
- Ledbetter noted that the Library received a \$15,000 LSTA grant to build the collection of resources housed at the APL@Boykin micro-library in the Boykin Community Center. The Library will contribute a \$3,750 match to this project from local funds.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Library's Ghoulish Gala will take place on October 27 from 5-7 p.m. Board members, along with Whitten, volunteered to serve as judges for the costume competition. The event will also feature a DJ and other activities.
- Children's author Malcolm Mitchell will visit all COA third graders on Valentine's Day 2023 as part of the Library's Third Grade Reading Dragons outreach program. Third-grade classes will assemble at the Auburn Junior High Auditorium for the program, which will include a magician and other activities.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further items of business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyler W. Whitten