

Auburn Public Library Advisory Board Minutes from January 17, 2023

The Auburn Public Library Advisory Board met at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, in the Library Conference Room. The following individuals were present:

Board Members	Marcia Boosinger, Chair Bonnie MacEwan, Vice Chair Karen Herring Daniel Surry
APL Staff	Tyler W. Whitten, Library Director Ashley Brown, Public Services Librarian Manager Kari Carpenter, Collection Development Coordinator Cynthia Ledbetter, Engagement and Outreach Librarian Brandon Rowland, Digital Services Librarian
Resident	Martha Shamp

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Boosinger at 10:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

- Boosinger asked all in attendance to introduce themselves at the beginning of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

- Boosinger called on resident Martha Shamp, 307 Camellia Drive, who requested to speak.
 - Ms. Shamp shared her personal opinions regarding works in the Library's collection that feature and/or relate to members of the LGBTQ+ community. Ms. Shamp spoke for approximately 45 minutes.
- Boosinger mentioned that the memo from the committee that reviewed the title *This Book is Gay* by Juno Dawson in response to Ms. Shamp's request to reconsider was included in the packet and that the committee decided to reclassify the work to adult nonfiction. Both Boosinger and Carpenter served on the review committee, along with Public Services Librarian Luke Brown and Programming Specialist Samantha Brasher Godsy.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Carpenter mentioned that Public Services Librarian Luke Brown forwarded a thank you email to her from a family that appreciated the inclusion of the *Good News for Little Hearts* series of picture books for children. The titles in the series feature morals and values from a Christian perspective and were purchased in response to a recent patron request.

LIBRARY SERVICES PRESENTATION

- Engagement and Outreach Librarian Cynthia Ledbetter provided an update on efforts currently underway to expand outreach into the community. Highlights included the following:
 - In the first quarter of FY2023, Engagement and Outreach increased outreach hours to the Boykin Community Center from one hour per week to three hours per week, with the goal for the second quarter being to increase to six hours per week.
 - Engagement and Outreach staff are in communication with the directors of the various groups housed at the Boykin Center, including the day cares, seniors group, and the Boys and Girls Club, to learn how the Library can help to meet their needs.
 - Funds from the Library's FY2023 grant through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) will be used to enhance the collection of resources housed at the micro-library within the Boykin Center.
 - Staff are currently planning to expand outreach beyond the Boykin Center to other neighborhood hubs in the community.
 - A grant for FY2024 is already in planning to enhance resources available through the Library's upcoming outreach van, the purchase of which will be pursued when a quote can be obtained through the City's vendor.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- Various Board members mentioned positive contacts they had experienced within the community.
 - Herring mentioned volunteering with her church group at the Community Market and wearing her Library hoodie to the event, which prompted a conversation with someone in attendance who expressed appreciation for story time programs at the Library. Herring shared information about the current reading challenge program and other services.
 - Board members agreed that Library promotional items often prompt these positive interactions.
 - Boosinger mentioned a conversation that occurred with a resident who expressed appreciation for the Library and services provided.
 - MacEwan mentioned interactions with City Council representatives, during which she spoke about the vital role the Library plays in the community, excitement surrounding the plans for the upcoming Boykin campus branch, and the efforts to ban books in public libraries around the nation. MacEwan also related that her councilperson does not support book bans.
 - Board members noted that many opportunities for advocacy will be present once construction begins at the Boykin campus.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- Board members held their annual meeting, at which officers are elected for 2023.
 - MacEwan reported that she was willing to serve an additional term as Vice Chair, and Boosinger had stated that she was willing to serve an additional term as Chair. No other nominations were received in advance.
 - No additional nominations were made during the annual meeting.
 - Surry called for a vote to approve the slate of officers as submitted. Herring seconded. None opposed.
- Board members conducted the annual review of the Collection Management Plan during this meeting. The following suggestions were made:
 - As the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and Freedom to Read statements are referenced in the Plan, Board members requested that these documents be linked to the full text at the ALA website.
 - Board members also requested that the ALA Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read statements be included in the Related Links section of their website.
 - At last year's review, Board members requested that staff write an addendum to the Plan concerning the building of resource displays within the Library, and that addendum was approved. This year, Board members requested that the addendum be incorporated as a part of the Plan, removing the addendum status.
 - MacEwan moved to affirm and approve the Collection Management Plan with the changes detailed above. Herring seconded. None opposed.

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 campus.
- Whitten also stated that the design contract for the Thach Avenue restroom renovation was approved by the City Council at the December 6, 2022 meeting and that meetings will begin soon to develop a plan for that work.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Whitten and the Library Management Team provided a statistical report for December 2022.
 - Rowland discussed an enhancement to statistical tracking for the self-check stations that will allow for more accurate reporting for both Thach and the Boykin micro-library, and he highlighted the increase in visitor traffic, which may be related to updates completed on the security gate software.
 - Continued high usage of study spaces was noted by Board members, with 510 hours during the first quarter of FY23.
- Whitten and the Library Management Team presented updates from the Mission Alignment Plan for October – December of 2022.
 - Board members noted the continued growth of the Library's social media presence.

- Whitten and the Library Management Team provided a look at the Mission Alignment Plan for January – March 2023.
 - Rowland noted that we are currently working to incorporate both cloudLibrary e-resources and Kanopy streaming video records into Vega, our public search interface.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Those in attendance thanked MacEwan for providing coffee and cookies and Surry for providing donuts.
- Attendees were reminded of the Library's Kopper Kettle program at the Boykin Community at 4:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further items of business, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyler W. Whitten