Auburn Public Library Advisory Board
Minutes from May 9, 2023

The Auburn Public Library Advisory Board met at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, in the Library Conference Room. The following individuals were present:

Board Members	Marcia Boosinger, Chair
	Bonnie MacEwan, Vice Chair
	Bernard Anderson
	Karen Herring
Staff	Tyler W. Whitten, Library Director
	Leslie Johnston, Collection Development Librarian
	Kari Carpenter, Collection Development Coordinator
	Cynthia Ledbetter, Engagement Outreach Librarian
	Brandon Rowland, Digital Services Librarian
	Luke Brown, Public Services Librarian
	Daisy Griffin, Library Assistant
	Keith Williams, Public Services Executive Director
	Paul Clark, City Attorney
Guests	Debra Beil
	Anna Mehta
	Jim Newton
	Lorna Wood
	Billye Welburn
	Jesús Tirado
	Arlene Godwin
	Susan Youngblood
	Adeet Handel

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Boosinger at 10:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 18, 2023, meeting were distributed to Board members in advance of today's meeting. Herring moved to approve the minutes. Anderson seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

Boosinger reviewed the procedures for Citizens' Communications from the Library Board Bylaws. Boosinger asked Whitten if any presentation materials had been received prior to the meeting. Whitten reported there were none.

The following individuals spoke in support of the library collections and services:

- Jesús Tirado

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

LIBRARY SERVICES PRESENTATION

Rowland, Carpenter, Johnston, Brown, and Ledbetter provided an overview of the use of statistics and information to plan services and collections, the re-ordering of the children's collections to create Middle Grade and Reader+ collections, the way materials are selected for the collections, staff mediated checkout, the display philosophy, and the upcoming Mobile Library. Boosinger reviewed the Unattended Children policy currently in place.

The presentation slides are attached to the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. **Impact Stories**

   o Two impact stories were included in the Board packet.

      ▪ A note of support from Laine Bradley Adams.

      ▪ A note expressing appreciation for the Books by Mail program.

      ▪ Boosinger reviewed additional notes she received.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- Opportunities for Advocacy
   o MacEwan described her efforts to register residents in her neighborhood for the Summer Learning Challenge and spoke at the recent City Council meeting about the Library's partnerships to continue developing services at the Boykin Community Center as we prepare for the branch library.
   o Boosinger spoke at the recent City Council meeting about the upcoming mobile library initiative and thanked council members for approving the purchase of an outreach van.

- o The comments that Boosinger and MacEwan made at the City Council meeting, along with pictures from a visit to the Library by Councilmember Bob Parsons, have been forwarded to the Alabama Public Library Service to show how information was shared with local officials during National Library Week.
    - o Herring noted that services currently at the Boykin Center provide great data that can be used in developing services at the upcoming branch.
- Boosinger mentioned that Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director of the American Library Association, was recently honored as one of Time Magazine's 100 influential people and asked Whitten to play a video of Hall's comments from the Time 100 event.
- Ledbetter described the Library's social media postings during National Library Week.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- Board members viewed the video "Trustee Training: Ethics" produced by the Alabama Public Library Service. The video is part of a series of videos produced by APLS for library trustees.
- Boosinger encouraged Board members to view the remainder of the series on their own using the link provided by APLS. Two Board members are required to view the entire series in order for the Library to remain eligible for APLS services and support.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **April 2023 Statistics** – Staff presented a report covering April statistics.
    - o Staff noted that door count statistics are still estimated, as technology issues continue with obtaining accurate counts.
    - o While many statistics are down after an unusually busy March, April 2023 statistics demonstrate a significant increase from April of 2022. Ledbetter noted that special spring break programs contributed to high program attendance in March.
- **Mission Alignment Plan Update** – Staff presented a report covering progress toward strategic plan goals during April.
    - o Boosinger asked for a description of the LX Starter pack, and staff reported that it is the modern method of delivering notification emails to users.
    - o Boosinger asked about progress on the visual merchandising plan, and Whitten stated that it is on hold as staff assess possible strategies to ensure that displays reflect the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion stated in the Board's Collection Management Plan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ledbetter showed the newly completed Summer Learning Challenge promotional video available at https://youtu.be/_qcHTyepdxQ
- Herring mentioned a book talk to occur on the afternoon of May 9 at the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities, at which Dan Carter will discuss his book *Unmasking the Klansman: the Double Life of Asa and Forrest Carter*.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 11:31

Prepared by Bonnie MacEwan, Vice-Chair

User Experience Update

Better Every Day

City of Auburn

Auburn Public Library **|** May 9, 2023

User eXperience

- What does enhancing user experience mean at Auburn Public Library?
  - Creating a welcoming, accessible, and intuitive environment that meets the needs and expectations of Auburn's diverse population and encourages them to use library resources and services.

  - A user interface is like a joke. If you have to explain it, it's not that good.
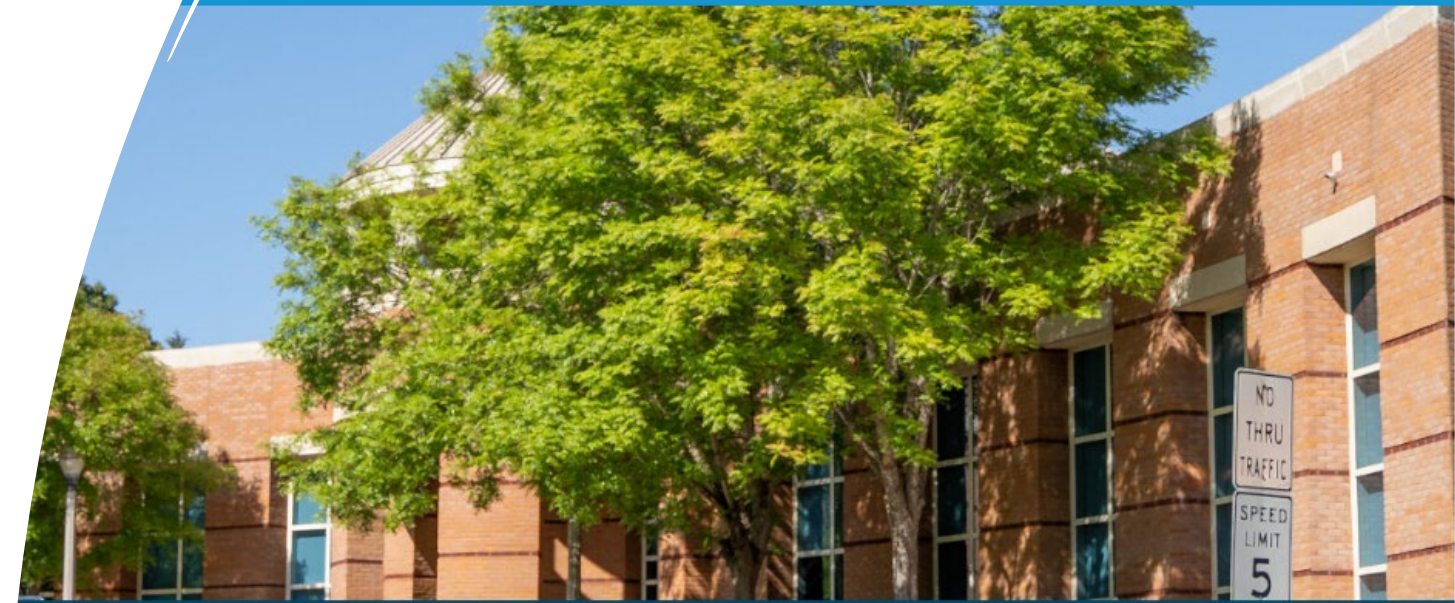
    –Martin Leblanc

Website

- Consistent with COA

- Most popular services featured on home page

- Adding new functionality

Facility Monitoring

- Multiple cameras covering all areas of the facility
- Displays
- Capacity
- Safety

Arrangement

- Oldest to youngest
- Consistent flow
- Accessibility

Signage

- Collection
- Spine Label Prefixes
- Intended audience
- Range holdings
- Additional information via QR code

Middle Grade & Reader +

- Clearly defined reading levels

- Appropriately divided non-fiction subjects (ie: holidays vs. WWII)

- Conducive to serendipitous patron discovery

- Follows current visual merchandising trends for youth print

Patron Requests

- Approximately 12% of collection purchases via direct patron request FY22

- Topical request or exact item

- Build additional content around requests

- Online form or call/in person

- Leverage ILL when needed

- Automatic holds

If there is an item you would
ll review your request. If we are

ormation you provide, the easier

○ Audiobook

○ Other

☐ Adults

Title

Author/Director

Staff Mediated Checkout

- Remove self-checkout capability
- All checkouts mediated by staff
- Limit
  - Collections
  - Formats
  - Quantity

Display Philosophy

- The Auburn Public Library utilizes displays throughout the Library facilities to increase collection visibility and discoverability. The Display Team executes this goal by presenting materials in ongoing as well as seasonal or topical displays and in a variety of formats, topics, and viewpoints, reflecting the Collection Management Plan and the ALA Library Bill of Rights. The Display Team incorporates the Auburn Public Library's values of equity, diversity, and inclusion in the design and material selection of our displays.

Mobile Library

- Van Acquisition
- "Mobile Library" Provisions
- Community Outreach

Unattended Children

- Children of all ages are encouraged to visit the Library with their parents or caregivers to enjoy the resources available. The Library Advisory Board and Library Staff emphasize that a child's health, safety, and behavior while in the Library are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver. While the Board and Staff are sympathetic to those families who have difficulty finding appropriate child care, the Library cannot assume that level of responsibility for children.

- Children who patronize the Library should be encouraged to learn appropriate use of Library resources, and while in the Library, they should show respect to other people they may encounter.

- Children age seven (7) and younger must be accompanied by a parent or responsible caregiver age sixteen (16) or older at all times.

- Children age eight (8) to twelve (12) may be in the Library without a parent or caregiver if:
    - Attending a scheduled, supervised Library function;
    - Working on a research project / school assignment;
    - Selecting Library materials for checkout; or,
    - Reading.

- In the above situations, a parent or caregiver must be immediately available should any problem arise. If, in the judgment of Library staff, an unattended child requires parental supervision, staff will notify the child's parent or caregiver or the appropriate authorities.

- Library staff cannot assume responsibility for keeping unattended children within the Library building or for the safety of children once they leave the Library.

- Library staff cannot provide transportation for a child. In case of an emergency involving an unattended child, Library staff will call 911 and report to the authorities that the child's caregiver is not present.