

## **Auburn Public Library Advisory Board**

Minutes from October 15, 2024

The Auburn Public Library Advisory Board met at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, in the Conference Room of the Auburn Public Library. The following individuals were present:

### **Board Members**

Bonnie MacEwan, Chair  
Karen Herring, Vice Chair  
Marcia Boosinger

### **COA Staff**

Cynthia Ledbetter, Director  
Ashley Brown, Public Services Librarian Manager  
Luke Brown, Public Services Librarian  
Leslie Johnston, Collection Development Librarian  
Brandon Rowland, Digital Services Librarian  
Keith Williams, Public Services Executive Director

### **Guests**

Debra Beil  
Carrie Hill  
Harriette Huggins  
Jim Newton  
Martha Shamp

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair MacEwan at 10:00 a.m. and congratulations were shared for Ledbetter's promotion to Library Director. Roll call of the board members ensued, noting the absence of Bernard Anderson. A quorum was determined to be present.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 2024 meeting were distributed to Board members in advance of today's meeting. No additions or corrections were needed and Boosinger moved to approve the minutes as written and MacEwan seconded. None opposed.

## **CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

MacEwan reviewed the procedures for Citizens' Communications from the Library Board Bylaws and reminded attendees that visual aids must be submitted before the meeting. Ledbetter reported no materials were received. The following individuals spoke:

- Martha Shamp shared her concerns about LGBTQ+ and sex education books in the library, quoting scripture from 1 Corinthians.
- Harriett Huggins spoke on the role of libraries in providing diverse resources and access to information for all users

MacEwan closed citizens' communications.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- A thank you note from the Christian Women's Job Corps' was shared and appreciated, and Herring inquired to learn that this resourceful meeting is held twice each year for the CWJC.
- Postcards filled out by library visitors were shared. The positive feedback and support from the community were noted.
- Positive feedback on library posts on social media was discussed briefly, and board members shared ways they were working to boost engagement through social media.
- MacEwan shared an impact story about a former student's appreciation for Betty Burgess, a former board member.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- As approved in the September board meeting, the board was scheduled to review the following policies: Borrower Privileges, Borrow Responsibilities, and Collection Management Plan. Minor changes were highlighted and distributed to board members for review before the meeting.
- Boosinger moved to accept and approve the policies as presented. Herring seconded the motion, and none were opposed.

## **LIBRARY SERVICES PRESENTATION**

- The library budget for the upcoming fiscal year was presented, showing a 9% growth compared to the previous year.
- The increase in contractual services was explained as being due to the addition of digital resources, including databases like Newsbank and the New York Times.
- The budget for commodities, which includes the book budget, saw a significant increase, addressing the push for a higher per capita budget.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- **September 2024 Statistics**
  - Statistics on library usage were presented, showing a significant increase in database hits and computer use logins.
  - The circulation of physical and digital materials also saw positive growth.
  - The fluctuation in program participation was discussed; Herring suggested analyzing the number of programs offered vs attendance to gain a better understanding of the trends.
  - Evaluation of gate counts was shared with plans to improve accuracy
- **Mission Alignment Plan Updates**
  - New projects and initiatives were announced, including the Favorite Authors Club, where patrons can sign up to automatically receive holds on books by their favorite authors.
  - The renewal of digital resources was mentioned, with the addition of LinkedIn Learning.

- The 3D printer use is being tested by staff, and plans for including it in a future maker space in the new Boykin facility were discussed.
- The “APL On Location” visits for the library's outreach services were temporarily paused due to concerns about the safety of the carts used for transportation. Fixed shelving will be installed to ensure the books are securely stored during transport.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The next board meeting is set for November 19, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
- MacEwan reminded the group of the Ghoulish Gala event that is set for October 22, 2024

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was officially adjourned by MacEwan at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Herring