

Minutes LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Minutes of the LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD virtual meeting recorded at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, held via Microsoft Teams.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Teri Metros (Chair)
Marie Brown
Marissa Dailey
Dr. Felicia Durden
Chris Sar
Carrie Taylor
Christopher M. Watts (Vice-Chair)

(MEMBERS) Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Rachael Brickner, Sr. Management Assistant - Community Services Administration
Brian Gonzales, Library Specialist II+ - Library Services Division
Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director - Library Services Division
Laurel Plapp, Librarian II+ - Library Services Division
Madrina Viator, Book Bike Ambassador - Library Services Division

General Public Present:

- No members of the public present.

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order:

- Teri Metros, Library Advisory Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 - Call to the Audience:

- No public comments from the audience to report.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of the January 5, 2022, Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes:

APPROVED

- Teri Metros, Library Advisory Board (Board) Chair, asked the Board members to review the unapproved meeting minutes document dated January 5, 2022.
 - No edits noted or requested.

MOTION: Christopher M. Watts (Vice-Chair) moved to approve the January 5, 2022 Library Advisory Board meeting minutes as presented.

SECOND: Marie Brown seconded.

DECISION: Motion approved, 7-0.

Ayes: Marie Brown, Marissa Dailey, Dr. Felicia Durden, Teri Metros (Chair), Chris Sar, Carrie Taylor, and Christopher M. Watts (Vice-Chair)

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstained: None

Agenda Item 4 - Report: Friends of Tempe Public Library

- No report.

Agenda Item 5 - Update: Tempe Public Library Book Bike

- Brian Gonzales, Library Specialist II+, Laurel Plapp, Librarian II+, and Maddy Viator, Book Bike Ambassador, gave an update to the Library Advisory Board specific to the relaunch of Tempe Public Library's Book Bike program.
 - The team reported that the Book Bike will visit Clark, Meyer, Hollis, and Kiwanis parks on a rotating schedule throughout the spring;
 - M. Viator further stated that the Book Bike is scheduled to appear at multiple upcoming community events including Tempe Play Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on February 26 at Kiwanis Park.
- Teri Metros, Library Advisory Board Chair, thanked the Book Bike team for their presentation and praised the team for their efforts.

Agenda Item 6 - Staff Report: Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director

- Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director - Library Services Division, gave the following report specific to Tempe Public Library operations:
 - **140** adults were engaged in **programming** during January 2022; programs included:
 - **Stories Our Grandparents Told Us with Dr. Duane Roen;**
 - Dr. Duane Roen also hosted another writing workshop on Tuesday, February 1, titled, "Letter to an Ancestor."
 - **English Corner;**
 - **Mystery Club;**
 - **Great Books discussions;**

- **Coffee, Tea, and Books;**
- **Spotlight Reads: Diversify Your Shelf**, a new book club highlighting BIPOC and LGBTQ+ authors;
- **How to Use Google Docs;**
- **Readers' Theater;**
- **One-Page Book Summary;**
- **Understanding Our Stellar Neighbors - Star Birth: From Gas Clouds to Young Stars**, an astronomy program led by ASU Professor Sanchayeeta Borthakur;
- Tempe Public Library's **Writer in Residence** program will begin in late February with local author Sara Fujimura.
- **Cosplay Make-Up: Bruises, Blisters, and Gore**, led by local artist Sydney A.A. Banks, head make-up artist for United Zombies of America;
- **Cosplay Thermoplastics**, a live demonstration of the use of thermoplastics for cosplay;
- **FanCon** (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, January 29), an annual, signature event of Tempe Public Library with costume contests, artists, authors, vendors, and activities for all ages that celebrate pop culture.
 - J. Jupitus reported that approximately 2,500 people attended FanCon;
 - Staff, volunteers, and participants had a wonderful time visiting with vendors, participating in activities, and taking-in the costume contest;
 - J. Jupitus praised Jill Brenner, Librarian II+, for her efforts to coordinate and provide leadership to FanCon.
- **Physical circulation of materials** increased by 29% in January 2022;
 - Physical circulation of materials in November 2021 totaled 29,122 uses;
 - Physical circulation of materials in December 2021 totaled 27,392 uses;
 - Physical circulation of materials in January 2022 totaled 35,341 uses;
 - For comparison: January 2021 totaled 15,190 uses;
 - For comparison: January 2020 totaled 44,015 uses.
- **Virtual/eResource circulation** increased by 10% in January 2022;
 - eResource circulation in November 2021 totaled 26,345 uses;

- eResource circulation in December 2021 totaled 26,946 uses;
- eResource circulation in January 2022 totaled 29,704 uses;
 - For comparison: January 2021 totaled 29,986 uses;
 - For comparison: January 2020 totaled 23,211 uses.
- **BrainFuse**, an eTutoring resource, has launched, and is providing homework assistance for students of all ages, as well as career resources, resume' support, and citizenship test preparation; BrainFuse saw 98 uses in December 2020, and 58 uses in January 2022.
- **Public access computers** within the Library's computer lab saw 2,400 uses in January 2022, an increase of 20% from December 2021;
 - The lab on the **main floor** saw 2,086 uses;
 - The lab in the **Teen Center** saw 13 uses;
 - The lab in **Youth Services** saw 79 uses;
 - **Satellite locations** including the Cahill Senior Center, Escalante Community Center, and the North Tempe Multi-Generational Center saw 222 uses.
- Tempe Public Library has an **average attendance** of 736 patrons per day, an increase of 10% from December 2021.
- Tempe Public Library has completed the following **active recruitment**:
 - Library Assistant in Technical Services;
 - Siana Berg, former Youth Programming Assistant at Tempe Public Library, was selected for this opportunity and began working in her new role on Monday, January 31.
- Tempe Public Library has the following **pending recruitment**:
 - Library Manager assigned to Youth and Teen Services.
- J. Jupitus reported the following information specific to operations of Tempe Public Library's (Library) **Youth and Teen Services** areas:
 - 376 participants were engaged in programming during January 2022; J. Jupitus highlighted the following programs:
 - **Code Club**, a club for youth ages six to 11-years-old to explore programming language and more, met three times;
 - **Kindergarten Readiness Workshop**, a program for children ages four and five-years-old and their caregivers to practice school readiness skills, held a single session with two participants;

- **Homeschool Open Lab** returned for daily use and had five participants;
- **PageTurners**, a program hosted by students from Arizona State University for youth ages six to 11-years-old to develop positive relationships with reading relaunched in January 2021;
- **Facebook Live Story Times** continue to remain popular and met four times; Alicia Hancock, Librarian II+, held an in-person story time outdoors at FanCon to great delight of all in attendance.
- Staff members are beginning to prepare for **2022 Summer Reading**; this year's theme is "Oceans of Possibility."
- **Teen Volunteers** provided 136.5 hours of service among 26 teens;
- **Anime Streamers** played host to four sessions;
- **Create Thursdays** held four sessions;
- Virtual programming for teens continues; **Teen Times** and weekly **Zoom Teen Hangouts** continue to see a handful of participants each month;
- 37 **STEAM kits** were checked-out for in-Library use, meaning teens are exploring the available resources with staff support.

Agenda Item 7 - Fine Free Tempe Public Library Review, Discussion, and Action: APPROVED

- Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director - Library Services Division, reported that the Tempe Public Library leadership team reviewed and discussed the impacts of becoming a fine-free public library effective February 14, 2022.
- J. Jupitus noted the following information:
 - In the last decade, public libraries have been making a concerted effort to address the social justice inequity and barriers to access that overdue fines on library materials have presented for historically marginalized communities;
 - The global pandemic has had significant social and financial impacts on all communities, particularly those most in need of library services;
 - The focus of public libraries in general, and Tempe Public Library, is to provide free and equitable access to materials for all residents and community members;
 - Fine free libraries have found significant increases in materials returned, community engagement with the library, and in the number of card holders;
 - The elimination of overdue fines does not allow library users to keep materials indefinitely; users who do not return their materials will be charged the cost of a replacement copy 14 days after the due date, as is already the practice.
 - Tempe Public Library has received multiple inquiries regarding library overdue fines. Upon review of Valley libraries, Phoenix, Mesa, Glendale, Scottsdale, and Pima County are all fine

free.

MOTION: Chris Sar moved to approve the elimination and forgiveness of overdue fines at Tempe Public Library (fine-free Tempe Public Library) effective February 14, 2022.

SECOND: Marissa Dailey seconded.

DECISION: Motion approved, 7-0.

Ayes: Marie Brown, Marissa Dailey, Dr. Felicia Durden, Teri Metros (Chair), Chris Sar, Carrie Taylor, and Christopher M. Watts (Vice-Chair)

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstained: None

Agenda Item 8 - Tempe Public Library Borrower Privileges Policy Discussion and Action:

APPROVED

- Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director - Library Services Division, presented proposed updates to Tempe Public Library's existing Borrower Privileges Policy.
- J. Jupitus noted the following information:
 - Tempe Public Library closed to the public as a mitigation strategy to curb the spread of COVID-19;
 - Upon reopening fully, materials use has steadily increased, but is still below pre-pandemic numbers;
 - In addition, the pandemic also influenced materials released for library purchase, fewer DVDs and music CDs being released because of the shutdowns, and more people using streaming services for this type of media;
 - Tempe Public Library (Library) proposes to increase materials loan limits to 30 items, regardless of media type;
 - There is no longer a need to restrict access to more popular items like DVDs and CDs. Items check out for a 21-day lending period and will automatically renew up to three times unless another Library user has placed the item on hold;
 - Creating more consistent lending rules will allow Library users to track their borrowed materials more easily, and to return them on time;
 - Automatic renewals ensure that the community members who may have additional transportation or mobility challenges have the time that they need to return materials to the Library.

MOTION: Marissa Dailey moved to approve the updated Borrower Privileges Policy as presented.

SECOND: Marie Brown seconded.

DECISION: Motion approved, 7-0.

Ayes: Marie Brown, Marissa Dailey, Dr. Felicia Durden, Teri Metros (Chair), Chris Sar, Carrie Taylor, and Christopher M. Watts (Vice-Chair)

Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

Agenda Item 9 - Member Announcements/Future Agenda Items

- Teri Metros, Library Advisory Board Chair, asked Jessica Jupitus, Deputy Community Services Director - Library Services Division, to discuss Tempe Public Library's participation in the Greater Phoenix Digital Library on a future meeting agenda.
- T. Metros further inquired about how to become a member of the Friends of Tempe Public Library organization.

Agenda Item 10 - Adjournment

- Teri Metros, Library Advisory Board Chair, adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.
- The next meeting of the Library Advisory Board is scheduled to occur at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2022;
 - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this public meeting will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Prepared by: Rachael Brickner; Reviewed by: Keith Burke



March 2, 2022

Approval Signature: Library Advisory Board Member