

Tillamook County Library Board Minutes – December 16, 2021

Board Members Present: (y) Betsy Chase (y) Tim Josi, (y) Madeline Olson (virtual), (y) Jon Orloff, (y) Teresa Rivenes, (y) Sayde Walker, (y) Jennifer Byrne, (y) Mary Faith Bell (virtual)

Staff Present: (y) Geri Godber, (y) Kristi Hanson, (y) Lissa Glidewell

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Betsy Chase at 12:03 pm

Motion made by Jennifer Byrne to approve the November minutes, seconded by Teresa Rivenes, all in favor.

Budget Report:

Motion made by Teresa Rivenes to approve the budget report as submitted , seconded by Jon Orloff, all in favor.

Betsy Chase thanked everyone for being present in person, as it helps interactions. She also thanked Kristi Hanson and Teresa Rivenes for assisting with the virtual option. Betsy circulated a card to Board members for Sarah Beeler wishing her a good retirement and thanking her for her years of service.

The December 14th United for Libraries webinar, Building Strong Library Policies, was recorded and Betsy will forward the recording to all for Board development once available. Current challenges to intellectual freedom and other core library values were addressed in the session.

Betsy acknowledged and thanked Geri Godber for shepherding the Board's levy rate recommendation for Board of Commissioner consideration. Commissioners indicated their support with the formal vote scheduled for December 29.

Director's Report:

- Betsy requested that thanks from the Board be expressed to staff for helping out and being flexible during changes and staffing issues.
- Wi-Fi use counts are estimated to begin again in Dec/Jan, when the new equipment is operational.
- To increase TCL Wi-Fi access, eleven places along the coast were identified as locations for hotspots. These remote devices will be secured to the buildings in a lock box. Geri stated the cost is \$1000/per hot spot, this includes device and labor costs. A total of \$11,000 in ARPA funds was requested to acquire the hot spots. The devices are estimated to be available by September. The range of the remote devices is TBD. Chamber and TBCC will advertise the Wi-Fi availability.
- The Newsbank database will be available starting in January.
- Signage from the stacks at the main library has been removed and there are currently no plans to have it replaced.

Strategic Framework:

There will be two layouts, one for print and one for brochures. The mock-up of the brochure was presented to the board. Betsy asked for input and discussion on the brochure.

Jon Orloff stated that the word 'library' needs to be used more often, but not add so much information that it overwhelms the brochure. Madeline Olson suggested that the photos be swapped to show children on the Planning Ahead page. Geri Godber will add a bullet/sentence about programming for all ages into Focus Area 1, Serving Everyone in Tillamook County. Jennifer Byrne requested that the title of Section 4 be revised to read Planning For the Library's Future to make it less ambiguous.

Data Review: Betsy Chase asked Board members to speak to what 'top five' data points are most important and meaningful to the public and what best tells the library's story. The Board's input can inform and help focus TCL efforts to present the facts as part of public information in 2022. Tim Josi asked what are the top five

services – defined and usage rates. Sayde Walker asked how the library adapted during the pandemic, all the different access options, how successful were they, and if those services are still available? Geri Godber clarified that curbside is still an option for patrons. Sayde asked how will the library continue to change as people’s world changes? Jennifer Byrne noted that circulation of physical items remains constant, which shows the importance of a physical library. Madeline Olson noted that emphasizing use of physical resources counters statements that ‘libraries are dead’; in fact, they are well used in traditional and new ways. Betsy Chase commented that the downloadable use remains high even after TCL has reopened. Kristi Hanson added that parents are eager for books out of concern their children have had too much screen time during the pandemic. Jon Orloff suggested statistics disaggregated by age. Jennifer asked about rate of library cards issued per population; e.g. rate of cardholder use over the past two years. What are the most check-outs in a year or median number of checkouts? Geri stated that there are 26,000 card holders in Tillamook County, and of those holders, 13,000 have been active since January 2019. Other data of public interest suggested: Wi-Fi and computer use; reminder that libraries fully opened again in July 2021; and stats on total collection size – TCL alone plus with Oceanbooks. The Board asked that there continue to be three years’ worth of information to review on reports of usage.

Next Board Meeting: January 20th, 2022. An extra hour will be added to this meeting, 12:00-2:30PM. This meeting will include the following:

- Annual By-law review
- Elect officers
 - Nominations from the floor
- Revisit Book club
 - Sayde Walker will present the idea—need full participation from the board
- Annual survey results presentation
- Election information presentation

Betsy noted that Part Two of the Board Workshop on roles and responsibilities will be delayed and scheduled for July.

Foundation Update: Ruth LaFrance was not present, but sent an update. The sale of donated items raised \$794. The quilts did not sell, they will be saved for a future sale. All leftover items were re-donated to Restore.

Commissioner’s Update: Commissioner Bell left before this agenda item and did not provide an update.

Public Input: None

Meeting adjourned at 1:20

Sincerely and respectfully submitted,

Melissa Glidewell