

**Tillamook County Library Board Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 28, 2024; 12:00 p.m.**  
**Hybrid Meeting**

**Board Members Present:**

Sayde Walker, Madeline Olson, Tim Josi, Romy Carver, Jennifer Byrne, Mary Faith Bell

**Staff, Commissioner, and Others Present:**

Angela Arena, Don Allgeier, Jennifer Wells, Mary Faith Bell, Marisa Graham-Collier

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Sayde Walker at 12:01 p.m. on Thursday March 28, 2024.

**Public Input:**

April Bailey is present to speak on concerns regarding the direction of the children's library, stating that shelves are lean on materials in the upper-level reading area. She states that the volume of picture books looks good, but older kids have a lack of reading material, with some spots seeming to be empty. She is also concerned about picture books with theme of lynching. April is still waiting for Don to get back about the petition for removal of 'explicit' books in children's section.

Don follows up and says that in terms of children's materials, after evaluating library wide usage approximately one third of materials checked out were children's materials, however the budget did not provide an allocation of funds commensurate with that usage and the budget for children's library materials should be increased. Last year we shifted collections budgets to even that out and better reflect the usage and needs. In practice that means that lots of books over time have been kept that would not have been and so we are now purging those to make room for the new items and replenishing the collection with the new collections over the next 5-6 months.

Don has a message he will send out for the additional concerns raised.

**Approval of February 2024 Minutes and Budget:**

Madelyn needs a point of clarification- were minutes approved for February? Approval of last month's minutes need to be added in retroactively.

Madelyn moves that the February meeting minutes be approved, as amended. Jennifer Byrne seconds, and the motion passes unanimously.

**February Budget and Spending Report:**

No new spending news to share.

2024-2025 Budget Presentation: 1 FTE increase

There is projected to be a big increase in capital outlay: Front part of metal roof will need to be replaced and there are many building maintenance repairs to make. Additionally, we will need to replace the courier van and RFID gate and self-check stations.

The Board will need to review the numbers and think through the needs to inform the approval of proposed budget.

February Budget and Spending Update: Madelyn moves for the approval, JB seconds, approved unanimously.

### **Director's Report:**

- Book Recommendation: Fire Exit by Morgan Talty which is coming out in June.
- The Systems Librarian candidate has accepted our offer, and we should be able to announce the successful recruitment in mid-April.
- The Programming Librarian recruitment had a few good candidates, and we are hoping to be able to officially announce this hire soon.
- The Library Assistant 1 recruitment closed with a high response so we will be holding many interviews in the coming weeks. It appears that the recruitments are yielding many more candidates than in previous years.
- Angela, manager at Main, is retiring on May 15, 2024.
- We have been awarded a grant for North County and South County libraries to install ADA accessible doors in both locations.
- Tremco submitted a bid for building repairs and maintenance requests with a 'not to exceed' amount.
- Jenn will be leading a series of community conversation events, the first being with Crossing Party Lines with the topic focused on taxation in America.
- Local businesses will be partnering with the library to provide summer reading prizes. Saydee advised that we used to provide a gift card for the farmers market and would like to see that come back.
- We are partnering with the County Health Department for a Health Literacy campaign. We are working on shrinking the magazine display to expand the Teen area, though temporarily we plan to use the space for displays and collaborations like this.
- Don met with interim chief Troxel about safety areas around the library. We have put a focus on issues on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue with extended lingering and evident drug use. Our front parking lot has had issues as well and we are working with County Council and interim chief Troxel to figure out how to be a welcoming place for everyone to visit, regardless of housing status, while at the same time having zero tolerance for problems causing safety risks to patrons and staff.
- We have been redesigning the workflow for materials processing with a focus on consolidating collection management into Courtney's work portfolio.

### **Data Dashboard**

We have spent time over the past few months correcting our door counts, as the current system is not reliable. We are working on establishing a better data management system that has not previously been in place.

Volunteers and volunteer hours are going up steadily and we expect that program to continue to grow.

### **Foundation Update**

Don gave an update that Foundation was awarded grant to finish the park, which is projected to be completed by the end of June.

The foundation will be providing small gifts for Library Staff Appreciation Day April 11 or 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Commissioners Report:**

Mary Faith Bell shared that they are working through budgeting. The board of forestry gave an encouraging presentation that our timber revenue will be relatively stable due in part to having a lot of non-traditional forest of Alder and Needle Cast Fir, which will be managed for the next 30 years.

An offer has been made for a new parks director who has accepted the position and is hoping to start by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, pending a background check.

### **Strategic Plan Dashboard**

We are continuing to work through the data and ensuring that we are measuring effectively and accurately. We are going through what people have reported and meeting our definitions so that the data sets are accurate over time.

### **New Business**

- Foundation Liaison- we are interested in a board member being a new Foundation Liaison as Jon is stepping down. The Foundation requires that there are two people serving on the Foundation board who were serving on the library board at the time they joined. Don can act as liaison for a time.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

