

Session 19-01, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Jacque Peterson at 5:30 p.m. on February 5, 2019 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: BOARDMEMBERS PETERSON, SPRINGER, KUSZMAUL (telephonically), SCHMIDT, FINN, AND FAIR

ABSENT: BOARDMEMBER MASSION (excused) AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE BENEDETTI

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR DIXON AND DEPUTY CITY CLERK TUSSEY

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Peterson introduced new Boardmember Connor Schmidt. The board took turns introducing themselves to Mr. Schmidt with brief descriptions of their backgrounds.

Chair Peterson requested a motion to approve the agenda.

FAIR/FINN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

### **RECONSIDERATION**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Meeting Minutes for December 4, 2018

Library Director Dixon noted one spelling error in the minutes on page four, first paragraph.

FAIR/SPRINGER MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 4, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

### **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **REPORTS**

- A. Library Director Report for January 2019
- i. 2019 Statistical Report – laydown
  - ii. 2018 Statistical Report

Chair Peterson deferred to Library Director Dixon to provide the staff report. There was discussion between the board and Ms. Dixon on the following topics:

- Alaska Books for Alaska Kids – creation of a database of recommended books for youth on Alaska and the north
- Hiring for the Library Technology Specialist and the Library Director positions
- Friends of the Homer Library strategic plan retreat and working with FHL on a mutual Endowment Fund Project
- Rasmuson grant – completed and turned in
- Big Read events – high attendance and upcoming activities
- Number of applicants for library temp position
- 86 attendees to the End of Life Estate planning – was widely attended/popular
- Library Association Conference – end of February in Juneau

- B. Friends of the Homer Library
- i. FHL Newsletter January 2019

Boardmember Kuszmaul shared that she had attended the FHL’s December meeting and provided a brief report on the FHL’s treasurer report, specifically noting how they spend the funds on the library. Ms. Dixon commented on FHL’s budget, what it mainly covers, and its limited uses. Chair Peterson said she would attend FHL’s February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- C. Boardmember Kuszmaul Report from Mayor’s Meeting
- i. Memo from Boardmember Kuszmaul Re: Mayor’s Meeting With Advisory Body Chair Persons, December 10, 2018

Boardmember Kuszmaul referenced her memo in the packet to report on what she had learned from the meeting. The board discussed how to streamline how commissions/board bring action items to the Council and present their proposals; idea of a “champion”; forming relationships with one or more councilmembers to be more involved with the LAB and who’d be willing to take up library challenges when they arise; and the notion of seed money, suggesting it be used to do community surveying for strategic community planning once a new library director is hired.

Chair Peterson noted that this subject could be on the March meeting agenda.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**PENDING BUSINESS**

- A. LAB Bylaw Amendments
- i. Memo from City Clerk Re: LAB Bylaw Amendment Postponement

Chair Peterson explained that the City Clerk is currently working on resolving some discrepancies between the bylaws and City Code, and asked for a motion to postpone the bylaw amendments until the next meeting.

SPRINGER/FAIR MOVED TO POSTPONE ACTION ON THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD BYLAWS TO THE MARCH 5, 2019 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. Notes from LAB Worksession January 7, 2019
- B. Connor Schmidt Appointment to LAB
- C. Boardmember Attendance at 2019 City Council Meetings

Chair Peterson briefly reviewed the informational items in the packet and facilitated discussion on who would be able to attend the upcoming City Council meetings.

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Councilmember Smith thanked Ms. Dixon on getting the Rasmuson grant completed. He opined on how the LAB should allow the new library director to first get established in the new job before they guide them into anything. He also offered further clarification on what Mayor Castner meant by the \$18,000 seed money and its intended uses, what a “champion” councilmember can be for the LAB, and the process of good findings for proposing items to City Council.

### **COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

Deputy City Clerk Tussey had no comments.

Library Director Dixon commented on the Big Read Q&A event, limited space for tool rentals in the Homer Library, and further details on the Rasmuson grant. For one part of the grant, her request was for a large, sliding, lockable glass case to display old Alaskana books that are currently in storage. She noted that it would require an update to the collection policy since current policy states the library does not collect rare books, and some of the Alaskana books could be considered rare.

### **COMMENTS OF THE COUNCILMEMBER**

Councilmember Smith had no further comments.

**COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Peterson had no comments.

**COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

Boardmember Finn provided an update on pending federal bills that pertain to national library funding. She shared information she had found on out-of-the-box services other libraries are offering, such as lending smart clothes for interviews and renting out tools, and about featured films through the Mango Languages program.

Boardmember Fair promoted additional Big Read events, including a pub chat on the book on February 12<sup>th</sup> and the main events with the author Roz Chast on February 22-23, 2019.

There were no comments from Boardmembers Springer, Kuszmaul, or Schmidt.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. at the Council Chambers located at City Hall, 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_