

1. CALL TO ORDER

Session 23-04, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Kate Finn at 5:30 p.m. on April 19, 2023 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: BOARDMEMBERS KUSZMAUL, BAILY, ASSELIN, CARSSOW, MCKINNEY, FINN & STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON

ABSENT: BOARDMEMBER FAIR (excused)

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK TUSSEY, CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

Chair Finn welcomed new boardmember Kathy Carssow, who was appointed March 28, 2023 to fill the seat vacated by Boardmember Brenda Dolma after her term expired. She noted that Clark Fair was also reappointed for another three-year term.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

BAILY/CARSSOW MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

Library Director Berry clarified the library director report is for March, not April. Deputy City Clerk Tussey noted she will ensure the approved minutes reflect the correct agenda item title.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

4. RECONSIDERATION

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.A. Unapproved March 21, 2023 LAB Minutes

KUSZMAUL/CARSSOW MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

Boardmember Baily requested a change to the minutes under Section 6.B. to provide the following language of an answered question by Public Works Director Keiser during her presentation: "...and the extent to which the City is considering potential changes in sea level which might affect transportation."

There was mutual agreement to the addition.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

6. VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

6.A. LAB Annual Training – Melissa Jacobsen, City Clerk
2023 Annual Commission & Board Training Handout
Annual LAB Training Presentation Slides

Chair Finn introduced City Clerk Jacobsen.

Ms. Jacobsen presented on and facilitated advisory body training. Topics addressed included the board's purpose, duties, and responsibilities; Open Meetings Act (OMA) and Homer City Code rules; general process for conducting business and making motions; boardmember decorum; and the responsibilities of the members, the chair, and assigned staff.

There was discussion on the following:

- Committees/subcommittees and how the OMA affects the number of members able to meet
- Motion discussion rules as explained by Robert's Rules of Order
- Meaning behind the chair not using their leadership to determine the outcome of a vote
- Who will be the next assigned clerk to the LAB

7. STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 7.A. Library Director Report
Director's Report dated March 31, 2023
2022 Annual Stats
2023 Annual Stats

Library Director Berry spoke to his written report, highlighting and facilitating discussion on the following:

- Marylou Burton, long-time member of the Friends of the Homer Library (FHL), receiving the Audrey Kolb Award
- New library policy document is still being worked on; revisions pending and what the LAB can expect once it comes before them in May
- Library catalog has shifted into the cloud
- Issues with the building/facility
- Summary of the last FHL meeting
- Upcoming ongoing and special library events
- Gate count statistics doubled and the potential reasons for that

- 7.B. Legislative Update
Info Sheet on H.R. 5 – Parents Bill of Rights Act

Chair Finn verbally reported on current budget changes and adjustments that affect state funding for libraries. She spoke to H.R. 5 – Parents Bill of Rights Act, how there is not yet a senate bill number, and who the members are of the Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions committee so boardmembers know who to contact regarding this bill.

- 7.C. Fundraising Update

Boardmember Kuszmaul noted she has been holding off on reaching out to Moose Run Metalsmiths until there is no snow on the ground to plan an event to install new donor plates on the fish wall.

8. PUBLIC HEARING

9. PENDING BUSINESS

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.A. Election of LAB Officers
Action Item Report LAB 23-006

Chair Finn introduced the agenda item by reading the title and asked for a motion on how the LAB would like to hold their elections.

CARSSOW/KUSZMAUL MOVED TO HOLD ELECTIONS BY SHOW OF HANDS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON-OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Chair Finn opened the floor for Vice Chair nominations.

Boardmember Kuzmaul was nominated; she agreed to accept the position.

With no other nominations called out, Chair Finn declared Boardmember Kuzmaul as Vice Chair and passed the gavel.

Vice Chair Kuzmaul opened the floor for Chair nominations.

Boardmember Finn was nominated; she agreed to accept the position but noted this would likely be her last year in the role.

With no other nominations called out, Vice Chair Kuzmaul declared Boardmember Finn as Chair and passed the gavel on.

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

11.A. AIR CC-23-070 Reappointment of Clark Fair & Appointment of Kathy Carssow to LAB, with attachments

11.B. Photos of Petersburg & Sitka Public Libraries, submitted by Boardmember Kuzmaul

11.C. Resolution 23-030 Supporting HPL Western Lot Improvements

11.D. LAB Meeting & City Council Report Calendar

11.E. ALA Notice of Right to Read Day April 24, 2023, submitted by Boardmember Kuzmaul

Chair Finn noted the informational materials provided. She acknowledged this is the last meeting for Student Representative Johnson who is graduating next month, and shared her efforts in finding a new student representative to apply.

Boardmember Kuzmaul spoke to the photos she took of the Petersburg and Sitka libraries, and the features their libraries have that were different or similar to Homer's library. Discussion ensued on the concept of having a teen room in the library.

Library Director Berry reiterated Council's approval of the Friends of the Homer Library's design plan for the library's western lot improvements.

During discussion on the LAB Calendar, Chair Finn confirmed Boardmember Asselin will be giving the LAB report at the next Council meeting. Boardmember Kuszmaul suggested scheduling the Homer Foundation to be a visitor at the May meeting. There was discussion about having the policy discussion as a worksession, and scheduling it before the August regular meeting.

Boardmember Kuszmaul spoke to the Right to Read Day notice issued by the American Library Association, and the importance of this date. Boardmember Asselin confirmed she would include the information in her report to Council along with the info on HR 5 Bill.

12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

13. COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Tussey announced she has given her notice with the City and her last day is April 21st. She thanked the board for all their work, for helping her become a seasoned clerk, and that she will still be in Homer so hopes to see them out in the community. She welcomed Boardmember Carsow and thanked Student Representative Johnson for serving nearly two years as the student representative, and wished her the best of luck after graduation.

Library Director Berry had no further comments.

14. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Student Representative Johnson had no comments.

Boardmember Asselin announced upcoming community events, including the Safety and Health Kids Fair, a block party hosted by SPROUT, and invited boardmembers to attend or volunteer to help grill at the fair.

Boardmember McKinney wished Student Representative Johnson luck. He commented to Deputy City Clerk Tussey that she has been the grease to move this machine along and they will miss her. He congratulated Boardmembers Finn and Kuszmaul for serving as the LAB's elected officials.

Boardmember Carsow commented it's been a pleasure to be at this first meeting and she looks forward to working together. She wished Student Representative Johnson and Deputy City Clerk Tussey good luck, and thanked Ms. Tussey for orienting her.

Boardmember Baily announced a breakfast meeting this Thursday that's being held by the Homer Foundation, with spots still available. It will provide guests with updated information on the operations of the Homer Foundation and an opportunity to ask questions.

Boardmember Kuszmaul shared her best wishes to Deputy City Clerk Tussey on her new endeavors and commented on Ms. Tussey's instrumental role in getting the City through COVID-19 as a Public Information Officer. She welcomed new Boardmember Carsow and voiced her appreciation for new members who are vocal and active such as her and Boardmember Asselin. She encouraged everyone to keep reading and supporting the right to read.

Chair Finn thanked Deputy City Clerk Tussey for everything, not just her work through COVID but also during the book ban meetings and how she steps up to the plate. She commented on the return of the seasonal cranes and geese, commended Student Representative Johnson for her choice in study,

anticipated boardmembers participating in all the upcoming public events that were mentioned, and thanked Library Director Berry for all his work on rewriting of the library policies.

15. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the board, Chair Finn adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

for Renee Krause MMC Deputy City Clerk II
RACHEL TUSSEY, CMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II

Approved: May 16, 2023