

**CALL TO ORDER**

Session 23-08, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Kate Finn at 5:32 p.m. on October 17, 2023 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS BAILY, CARSSOW, FAIR, FINN, KUSZMAUL

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBERS MCKINNEY, ASSELIN-MARTIN (EXCUSED)

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK KRAUSE

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

FAIR/KUSZMAUL MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** (3 minute time limit)

**RECONSIDERATION**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Unapproved Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2023

FAIR/BAILEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2023.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

**VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

**STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Director's Report for September/October 2023  
2022 Annual Stats  
2023 Annual Stats

Chair Finn introduced the item and deferred to Library Director Berry.

Library Director Berry reviewed his reports in the packet. He provided input on the following:

- Council reviewed and postpone action until 8, 2024 Ordinance 23-49
- Trick or Eat Food Drive
- Candidate Forums held in the Library
  - o Borough and City Candidates
- Sister City Teshio 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024
  - o Heading a Committee to plan the celebrations and recognition events
- Building Repairs
  - o Replacement of burners in the boilers
- Friends of the Library events for the fall and winter
  - o Dates set for Lifelong Learning – April 2024
  - o Big Read dates
- Trail work upgrades started
- Author talks

Boardmember Kuszmaul expressed enjoyment with the virtual author talks and hopes that they are well attended.

Boardmember Carsow complimented Library Director Berry on his responses and participation in a panel discussion on Talk Alaska regarding the book challenges locally, in Alaska and across the country.

Chair Finn commented on the virtual talks and spoke on Project Cuddle and Safe Haven laws that resulted from that project. She noted that it was really high quality authors.

Library Director Berry noted that these were recorded incase people are unable to attend when scheduled.

Chair Finn commented on Teen-tober events and the progress of the Youth Advisory Board.

Library Director Berry responded to questions regarding:

- How Ordinance 23-49 will affect departments and personnel
- Increases in attendance and numbers
  - o additional increases in eBooks
  - o drop in DVD's

#### B. Fundraising Update – Boardmember Kuszmaul

Chair Finn introduced the item and invited Boardmember Kuszmaul to provide the report.

Boardmember Kuszmaul reported that the fish are supposed to be installed by the end of day Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

Library Director Berry commented on his interaction with Moose Run Metalsmiths and getting the installation scheduled.

Boardmember Kuszmaul reported that she was not going to be in town to verify that the fish were installed and confirmed that there were five or six.

C. Legislative Update

Chair Finn reported that there was no legislation

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

**PENDING BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. 2024 Regular Meeting Schedule  
Memorandum from City Clerk as backup.

Chair Finn reviewed the memorandum and the requested action of the Board. She announced that December she will be out of state and Boardmember Kuszmaul will be chairing the meeting.

KUSZMAUL/CARSSOW MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2024 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED.

CARSSOW/KUSZMAUL AMEND THE MOTION TO INCLUDE FORWARDING TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTON. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- B. History of Library Cards  
Memorandum from Library Director as backup.

Chair Finn introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Library Director Berry.

Library Director Berry reviewed the report provided in packet. He facilitated questions on the renewal policy and processes for adult library cards, when a child turns 18 and gets an adult card those are updated by staff, they keep the same card but there are parameters in the system are changed. He facilitated further discussion on renewals and the process to renew cards; new cards for children and adding new ones before using the current supply with suggestions to order plain cards and offering stickers for children to select from to apply to the card.

## INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. LAB Annual Calendar 2023
- B. October 2023 City Newsletter
- C. City Manager's Report for City Council October 9, 2023
- D. Libraries in the News

Chair Finn facilitated discussion on the following:

- LAB reports to City Council for the October 23<sup>rd</sup> and November 27<sup>th</sup> meetings
  - o Boardmember Bailey volunteered for the November 27<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting, Boardmember Asselin-Martin volunteered for the October meeting.
  - o Boardmember Carssow volunteered for the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting to report the December LAB meeting
  - o Appreciation expressed for including the Monthly Newsletter as an informational, how to receive the newsletter and where it is available.
  - o Student Representative Application was received and they should be appointed at the next Council meeting.
  - o Various news articles submitted by the Chair regarding Libraries
    - McCain Library
    - Palmer Residents approving a bond to repair the library
  - o Board representative on the Library Art Selection Committee and submissions.

## COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)

## COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Library Director Berry noted that the Library will be closed for Alaska Day, Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>

## COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBERS (if Present)

## COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Boardmember Carssow announced her absence for the November meeting and wished every a Happy Thanksgiving.

Boardmember Kuszmaul reported speaking with Mercedes Harness who complimented the Board for how they handled the challenges for the books.

Chair Finn expressed appreciation for the comments made by Jill McCain on hoping that the Library can help refocus public attention to traditional values and political civility.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board Chair Finn adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. All meetings scheduled to be held in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

Renee Krause

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II

Approved: Nov. 21, 2023