

CALL TO ORDER

Session 24-05, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Douglas Baily at 5:30 p.m. on May 21, 2024 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom Webinar.

PRESENT: BOARDMEMBERS FINN, BAILY, HAAS, KUSZMAUL, CARSSOW, AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE MCDONOUGH

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBER ASSELIN-MARTIN & MCKINNEY (BOTH EXCUSED)

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR BERRY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK PETTIT

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Baily read the supplemental items into the agenda STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS Item B. Fundraising Report – Boardmember Kuszmaul Slideshow Presentation regarding the Homer Foundation Library Endowed Fund. A motion and second to approve the agenda as amended was requested.

KUSZMAUL/FINN MOVED TO PLACE THE FUNDRAISING REPORT AT THE TOP OF STAFF & COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACCEPT 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 April 16, 2024

FINN/CARSSOW MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2024.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Fundraising Report – Boardmember Kuszmaul

Boardmember Kuszmaul introduced Mike Miller of the Homer Foundation to the Commission. She added that Mr. Miller visits annually to report about the endowment. Mr. Miller facilitated discussion on the following topics:

- History of the Foundation and what they do
- Types and amounts of funds
- Details regarding the Library Endowment Fund
- Bequest gifts
- Donor engagement

Other discussion topics included

- Moose Run Metalsmiths continuation of making fish for the LAB
- Comprehensive Plan
- Past donors to the Library Endowment Fund and the matching fund

B. Library Director's Report
Stats for 2023
Stats for 2024

Library Director Berry noted that there was a bit of overlap between this report and the previous report. He covered the following:

- National Library Week
- New library card designs
- April 9th travel log from Homer High School students regarding their travels to Australia
- Celebration of Lifelong Learning
- April 27th League of Women Voters' Statewide Meeting
- Presentation at the Rotary from library staff and representatives of the Friends of the Homer Library
- Problems with the Wi-Fi at the library
- Safe and Healthy Kids Fair
- Plant Sale Fundraiser
- Library gate count

C. Legislative Report – Boardmember Finn

Boardmember Finn noted that most of her informational was coming from Mike Robinson, a specialist in networking for the University of Alaska Anchorage, adding that he stays up to date on legislation in the state. She informed the Board that there was \$750,000 in the budget that was presented to Governor Dunleavy. Ms. Finn added that what happens with that budget is to be determined in the coming weeks.

D. Comp Plan Steering Committee Report - Boardmember Carssow
Unapproved CPSC Regular Meeting Minutes of May 6th, 2024

Boardmember Carssow covered the following:

- Visit with the consultants in May

- Consultants meeting with different boards, commissions and interest groups
- Attempts to get input on the Comprehensive Plan from a diverse cross-section of the population as well as the population outside the city
- Current status of the housing market in the city
- Comprehensive Plan Survey

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PENDING BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Update on Library Needs Survey
Memorandum LAB-24-013 from Library Director as backup

Library Director Berry provided an update on the Library Needs Survey, covering the following:

- 42 responses on the survey as of May 14th
- Users want more open hours, computers, space, and programs
- Users are satisfied with staff, the building itself, and the programs that are in place

- B. Library Strategic Plan
Memorandum LAB-24-012 from Library Director as backup

Library Director Berry provided a summary on the Library Strategic Plan, noting the LAB's comments that had been included and the draft timeline. He covered the following:

- Demand for print resources is higher than it's ever been
- Demand for physical audio/video is half of what it was prior to the pandemic
- Demand for e-books is steadily rising
- Demand for streaming services is starting to climb

The Board discussed the potential of adding some kind of long-term goal to the Library's Strategic Plan regarding indigenous plants and invasive species on the library grounds. There were also discussions pertaining to the library's hours of operation, and the integration of the library into the transportation plan.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Haas Appointment
- B. Item from Boardmember Finn
- C. Judgement on Ulysses
- D. Benjamin Franklin
- E. City of Homer Newsletter for April 2024

F. 2024 LAB Calendar

Chair Baily noted the informational materials and congratulated Boardmember Hass on his appointment to the Board. Boardmember Finn volunteered to deliver the report to City Council of Tuesday, May 28th.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE (3 minute time limit)

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBERS (if Present)

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Boardmember Kuszmaul welcomed Boardmember Haas.

Boardmember Finn welcomed Boardmember Haas.

Boardmember Haas shared a personal story from his recent vacation to Vienna, Austria.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Baily adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m. The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, August 20, 2024 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.

ZACH PETTIT, DEPUTY CITY CLERK I

Approved:_____