

Library Commission approved minutes as presented on Monday, February 7, 2022.

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** Pamela Bailey, Chair, called the meeting of the Library Commission to order at 6:30PM on Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

Members Present: Pamela Bailey, Chair; Kathleen Poulsen, Vice Chair; Morgan Knapp, Valyrie Ingram, Sam Ruder, Student Representative

Members Absent: Hattie Kresbach, excused, Elizabeth Beechwood, excused, Kirsten Beier, unexcused

Staff: Colleen Winters, Library Director; Lily Hawley, Teen Services Librarian.

Council Liaison: Mayor Truax

Others: Rowan Kalhar, Teen Library Council President

- 2) **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

- 3) **CONSENT AGENDA:** Morgan Knapp moved, seconded by Valyrie Ingram, to approve the December 9, 2021 minutes as presented. **MOTION CARRIED** by all.

- 4) **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** None

- 5) **PRESENTATION: FOREST GROVE TEEN LIBRARY COUNCIL (TLC)**

- a) TLC Update: Teen Service Librarian Lily Hawley made introductions. Rowan Kalhar, TLC president, announced that TLC had five new members for a total of twelve. They have collectively put in over 400 hours of meetings, projects, and volunteer work. Their community art project, “Canvases,” is assembled as a mural for the east library entrance. Sam Ruder has overseen TLC podcasts and a “Take and Make” craft video. TLC had their first in-person meeting to get acquainted with new members.
- b) Teen-Space Proposal: In the planning stages is a new gathering space for teens. Except for this one library area there are no dedicated places for FG teens to gather outside of school. The current situation with its east entrance and public restrooms has a lot of foot traffic. The wall windows looking directly onto Pacific Ave. makes for a “fish bowl” feel. TLC would like to create an area that would be more inviting and inclusive for all their peers. The proposed design would switch the current YA section with the 900 section of the Library. Lily and Rowan presented a slide show vision of what

could be possible. In addition to the YA book and media shelves, were a service desk where technology could be checked out, comfortable seating in front of a wide screen for presentations, movie nights, and gaming. There were table and chair arrangements for studying and visiting. The room would have glass walls and entrance door with the outside ramp to the west library wing providing privacy. The next steps are to get feedback from middle/high schoolers, obtain quotes for construction, and seek funding.

- c) Discussion: Commission members expressed enthusiastic support for the project. Several members asked about adult access to the YA collection. Mayor Truax advised further discussion about the use of the new area by other library patrons. Mayor Truax expressed a concern about a restricted space in a public building.

6) DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS:

a) Patron Access/Commission Research

Patron Access/Commission Research: Colleen urged Commission members to continue researching and reporting back on unique websites and offerings at libraries across the nation. The Library staff will focus on improving patron access to the Library website. Items for consideration include: Letters from the Director, Staff Picks, and links to the Friends and Foundation websites.

b) Sesquicentennial

The city's Sesquicentennial Committee was not able to meet this month due to illness. Mayor Truax gave a summary of events to date. Last Saturday's Ralph Race attracted a good crowd and raised money for a "Silver Alert" system for Washington county area. In February, Mary Jo Morelli will be involved in a get-together to observe Oregon's 162nd Birthday (Feb. 14, 1889.) Juanita Lint has prepared a booklet of year-long celebrations. Street Banners are being designed. Hattie Krebsbach will be coordinating events with the Library.

7) B/C COMMUNICATIONS:

Kathleen requested that next month's agenda include a discussion of the Commissions Planning Retreat. Pamela inquired about an update on the new art installation.

8) STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Colleen Winters reported these items:

- a) Director's Report – The program survey compiled by Jim Jatkevicius and Bob Abbey received more than three hundred responses. Results emphasized the value of both in-house and virtual programs. Upcoming events will feature the Death Cafe conversation on grief and dying this Saturday (Jan. 15) Black History Month will be honored in February with two outstanding speakers. FG Library's NASA grant speaker will be Zoe Crain.

Colleen reported that the Library van has been ordered.

- b) Friends of the Library – Friends of the Library are excited about a Parking Lot Book sale this summer, possibly on the first Saturday in June.
- c) The Library Foundation of Forest Grove – The Foundation welcomed new member Sharon Olmstead.

9) COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Mayor Peter Truax reported these items:

Mayor Truax had an extensive month of county-wide meetings addressing major safety issues including a changeover to increase response time to 911, establishing a “Silver Alert” system, and designing improvements to two dangerous city/county road intersections. Safety studies suggest a renovation of Scoggins Dam that would not include raising the height of the dam. Mayor Truax will send his full written report to the Library Commission. He reminded the Commission of the upcoming Mark Hatfield Lecture Series sponsored by the Oregon Historical Society (Feb. 1st-May 10th, 2022.)

10) ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

Commissioners decided that the next meeting will be on February 9, 2022 at 6:30PM.

11) ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Chair Bailey adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Colleen Winters, Library Director
Elizabeth Beechwood, Secretary