

Regular Meeting -

May 5th, 2022

Library Board of Trustees

Mountain Home Public Library

790 North 10th East – Mountain Home, ID

Chairperson: Daniel Mercado

Vice Chair: Priscilla Sisson

Secretary/Treas: Samantha Venable Harjo

Clerk for the Board: Shasta Hochstrasser

Board Members Present: Chairman Daniel Mercado, Vice Chair Priscilla Sisson, Secretary/Treasurer Samantha Venable Harjo, Council Liaison Brad Stokes

Excused: Trustee James Green, Trustee Samantha Trombly

Others Present: Library Director Shasta Hochstrasser, Mountain Home News – Bret Deening, Scott Harjo – Harjo Motorsports

Roll Call – Chairman Mercado called the meeting to order at 5:01p.m. and a quorum was established.

Public Input – Scott Harjo from Harjo Motorsports updated the progress made on the book drop. Box is coming along and will be working on the outer shell, box opening and soft drop for book carts. The door opening will be a latch more like a shipping container and asked the board to start brainstorming color ideas for the powder coat and the badge listing the donors.

Consent Agenda – ALL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BELOW ARE ACTION ITEMS.

- A. Approval of Minutes – April 7th, 2022
- B. Approval of Bills – March 2022 & April 2022

Chairman Mercado noted the Repairs & Maintenance line was over budget. Director Hochstrasser noted that and said there would be other budget lines with available funding that will be able to cover the overage at the end of the fiscal year.

Trustee Harjo made a motion to approve the consent agenda and bills.

Trustee Sisson seconded.

The following vote was recorded.

Chairman Mercado AYE

Vice Chair Sisson AYE

Secretary/Treasurer Harjo AYE

Motion carried.

Old Business –

A. Discussion: Part-time Library Position Interviews & Summer Intern Posting

Director Hochstrasser gave an update on both positions –

Part-time Library Specialist – Interviews were held earlier today and a final selection was agreed to be the best fit. Director Hochstrasser called them this afternoon and they accepted the position and will be starting next week.

Summer Intern Grant – The Idaho Commission for Libraries increased the grant award from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00, which will allow the library to increase the overall hours of the internship. We will be posting the position tomorrow, close it on May 20th, interview the following week and have them start June 1st.

B. Discussion: Circulation of video games

Councilman Stokes wanted to keep the conversation going about the possibility of adding video games to the collection for circulation. Secretary/Treasurer Harjo asked if this would be a benefit for the youth and community. She said she would be more inclined if there was a larger request from patrons and would be curious to have youth surveyed during library programs on their thoughts, especially the Teen Advisory Board. Trustee Sisson mentioned the content would need to focus on educational skills. Director Hochstrasser provided circulation policies from other local libraries and said that a policy would need to be in place before any circulation were to occur. She was hesitant to purchase anything this fiscal year due to the remaining budget but would consider next fiscal year as a possibility. Chairman Mercado added that while content is a consideration, libraries contain various items that could be considered as adult content. Secretary/Treasurer Harjo said this should be a continued discussion and Councilman Stokes agreed. Director Hochstrasser said she would talk to comparative size libraries about their circulation policies when it comes to video games.

C. Discussion: USAC eRate Services & State Broadband reimbursement

Director Hochstrasser made the update that the eRate paperwork had been approved and that the State Broadband reimbursement paperwork for this year has been submitted making the library's internet service totally covered through federal and state funding.

New Business –

A. Action Item: Items removed from the consent agenda

B. Discussion/Possible Action: LYNX Consortium Assessment

Director Hochstrasser explained that the LYNX Consortium is a collaboration of multiple libraries which Mountain Home Public Library is a part of. Recently the collective directors were all in agreement to hire a consultant to help the group consider ways to improve and the findings included the possibility of the consortium separate their collective funding from being housed in the city of Boise's financials and instead become a 501c3. This would open up possibilities to apply for a wider range of grants and lift the weight from the city of Boise's shoulders when it comes to consortium financials. The consultant also recommended hiring a full time LYNX Director and cataloger to manage the financials and logistics so that it does not fully fall on the shoulders of all the LYNX Directors. Another big recommendation seriously considering the idea of providing courier service to all consortium members. Director Hochstrasser said she volunteered to be a part of the committee who would research the comparative costs of vendors, the current system using Boise Public Library staff and vehicles to transport items as well as a hybrid model using both Boise Public staff as well as contracted vendors for long distanced loads. No big decisions currently have been made. Director Hochstrasser will update the board as the months continue.

Director Report –

Old Business

Solar Panels grant – Still waiting to hear back from some solar companies as part of the process involves them and I haven't heard back yet. Applications due April 29, 2022 so we will try again next year if I don't receive the necessary information needed to apply. Trustee Sission asked if we could still look into solar picnic tables. Director Hochstrasser said she would check.

Idaho STEM Action Center & Flightline VR – I am meeting virtually with both parties to discuss potential ideas and grants that we can collaborate together that includes teen, adult and senior involvement. Updates coming soon.

Security Cameras – Just ordered the additional security cameras scheduling to get them installed soon. Will update when it is completed.

New Business

April Stats –

of Teen/Adult Circ.: 2,663

of Youth Circ.: 2,723

of items cataloged: 326

of computer sessions: 837

of RA: 2,675

#of items checked IN: 4,247

of items checked OUT: 5,801

of eBooks checked out: 278

of eAudios checked out: 137
of patron visits (door count): 6,655
of notarizations: 13
of proctored tests: 2
of new/ renewed cards: 207
Staff training: ML: 3, MB: 1, MF: 2,
JM: 1, BG: 2, AR: 5, SH: 10
of ILL's requested BY US to bring in for our patrons: 33
or ILL's requested FROM US to send out to other libraries: 2
Total # of items owned: 56,542
Total # People Booked a Librarian: 0
April Number of items found on the shelf not checked in = 7

That All May Read Mini-Grant – The Idaho Commission for Libraries is offering a \$1,000.00 designed to assist libraries in building large print collections, obtaining assistive technology, and/or providing outreach. Director Hochstrasser be looking at various magnifiers, scan markers and large print additions when applying for this grant.

Summer Reading Program – Bianca and Jessica are already starting to promote the upcoming Summer Reading Program with this year's theme of "Oceans of Possibilities" by making bilingual flyers and scheduling visits to all the K-6 grade classes in Mountain Home. Bianca went to Hacker Middle School's Donuts with Grownups to share info there and on May 13th both she and Jessica will promote it during the 4th grade Field Day. The Friends of the Mountain Home Public Library accepted Bianca's request of \$578.18 towards prizes for the program. Bianca has also sent out letters to various companies asking for any contributions and we will advertise all who have donated for the entirety of the program. So far, we have Roaring Springs passes, Regal Theatre ticket packs, & Aquarium of Boise pass but we also received monetary donation from Northwest Management Services. Bianca will also begin decorating Youth Services area like an ocean scene and participants will be adding to the scene with paper sea animals with written book reviews.

Adjourn –

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Sisson moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:07p.m. Seconded by Trustee Harjo. Motion carried.

Shasta Hochstrasser,
Library Director & Clerk of the Board

Daniel Mercado, Library Board Chair