

Trustee Green noted a few weeks ago that while the library board was informed last year by the Idaho Commission for Libraries of the changes made to the Idaho Library Laws, the Mountain Home Public Library's policy needs to have that change reflected.

Policy Section 1.00, Number 1.02, page 2/6, Article 2, Section 2, second sentence should now state:

A member of the city council, a mayor, or appointed officer of the city shall not be one (1) of the five (5) appointed trustees of the library board, but each year the council shall appoint one (1) of its members to be a liaison to the board, without voting rights.

Policy Section 1.00, Number 1.02, page 4/6, Article 3, Section 5, second paragraph, should now state:

With the recommendation of the library director, the board shall budget to hire all other employees as may be necessary for the operation of the library. The library director shall hire or oversee the hiring of all other employees based on the policies, procedures, and job descriptions of the city.

Secretary/Treasurer Venable Harjo made a motion to approve the consent agenda and bills.

Trustee Trombly seconded.

The following vote was recorded.

Chairman Mercado AYE

Secretary/Treasurer Harjo AYE

Trustee Trombly AYE

Motion carried.

Old Business –

A. Discussion: Book Drop Update

Scott Harjo let the board know that the last of the artwork is done. The next step is to get the exterior powder coated with the preferred color. After looking at the color samples, the board concluded that the box color should match the roof. Scott then showed a mockup of the sign and asked how the sponsors should be showcased. Director Hochstrasser asked that the Elks have a larger presence on the sign due to their sizeable contribution. The board agreed that if all the donors have logos, they should all be showcased on the sign. The sign will include the dedication date along with the current director and trustee names.

****Vice Chair Sisson arrived at 5:22pm****

B. **Discussion:** Military Cards

Director Hochstrasser had a digital dialogue with the Mountain Home AFB Library Director Deborah Worthington regarding the community comment made about free library cards for military personnel. She did confirm that there are libraries close to bases that have given free cards to military personnel which has seen a result of base libraries being closed then later resurrected after noting the difference in their absence. The Mountain Home Air Force Base is considered a remote and isolated base and having a library card is considered essential to the base. Director Hochstrasser and Director Worthington both agreed in seeing both of their respective libraries thrive and therefore it would be in both interests to keep our library card policy as is. Director Hochstrasser noted that they currently have a great relationship with the base library and have received additional items from the base that have been added to the collection.

New Business –

C. **Action Item:** Items removed from the consent agenda

D. **Discussion:** Telehealth in Libraries

Director Hochstrasser was excited to share with the library board about the potential opportunity coming through a partnership with the Department of Health & Welfare (DHW), the ICfL will be launching the Upgrade Your Space project this summer! The DHW will be investing \$500,000 over the next two years to expand telehealth services in public libraries by helping you create private, digitally enabled spaces in your building. Options range from a stand-alone privacy pod to cubicle walls to movable room dividers. We'll even provide a computer and other technology if funding is available. The best part? This isn't a grant. No complex application or budget to complete, no funds to manage and spend on a tight timeline, no vendors to deal with. Just choose the option from our list that works best for your library, and if you're selected, we'll get it delivered to your door. Director Hochstrasser will inform the board when the Commission will open the application.

Director Report –

Old Business

Active Shooter Training – We appreciated our local police and city staff taking the time to help us learn various options to act in case this situation ever occurs. I plan to invite them back to help staff refresh their memory and continue to stay alert. While we hope to never have to use the training, I knew this type of situation could happen anywhere and we need to be educated to have a plan in place.

Erate Filing – After receiving the first internet invoice of the new contract cycle, I noticed that I had made a clerical error in the amount owed before being reimbursed. I called the USAC and they told me to file an appeal and when I received a denial, I spoke to the FCC and they told me to file for a waiver. I submitted that and they later called me back saying even though he couldn't give me a definitive answer until later, this kind of error happens all the time and they are in the business of making sure

things can be fixed. I will send word when I hear back from them. In the meantime, I asked Paula to move \$2,000.00 from the book budget to the telephone/internet line for the next fiscal year just in case.

New Business

July Stats –

of Teen/Adult Circ.: 2,769

of Youth Circ.: 3,383

of items cataloged: 443

of computer sessions: 628

of RA: 3,171

#of items checked IN: 5,110

of items checked OUT: 6,548

of eBooks checked out: 282

of eAudios checked out: 114

of patron visits (door count): 4,411

of notarizations: 5

of proctored tests: 3

of new/ renewed cards: 191

Staff training: ML: 5, MB: 3, MF: 3,

JM: 3, BG: 3, AR: 4, AJ: 0, SH: 1

of ILL's requested BY US to bring in for our patrons: TBD

or ILL's requested FROM US to send out to other libraries: 0

Total # of items owned: 55,434

Total # People Booked a Librarian: 1

Number of items found on the shelf not checked in = 6

AFAD – In years when the Air Force Appreciation Day celebration was held in Mountain Home, the previous directors saw the benefit in closing the library during that Saturday to allow all employees the opportunity to enjoy the celebration. This decision also detours people in using the restrooms in the park rather than the library. The last two years, we have stayed open due to the cancelation of the festivities but with the announcement that it will be held this year, I thought it wise to ask the mayor if we could close the library on Saturday, September 10th. He approved the closure, and we will be posting signs as well as making announcements through various media.

American Girl Tea Party/Dangerous Day for Boys – We have appreciated the Friends of the Mountain Home Public Library coming together for so many years in hosting both events. Having also had a two-year break from holding these annual events, we are planning to bring them back with the understanding that we want to serve the Friends and provide teen volunteers to help us run both events. Bianca will be putting together a purchase request for the Friends to potentially approve, and we hope to hold both events in September/October. Director Hochstrasser asked Laurice if the Friends would like to help with the decorations and she said yes. Director Hochstrasser said that Bianca would be attending the next Friends meeting in August to discuss the details and program funding request then.

COVID-19 Testing Site – ARSL (Association for Rural and Small Libraries) is working with Color Health to support their contract with the CDC for the Increasing Community

Access to Testing program. This program supports free COVID-19 lab testing for under-resourced communities across the nation. Our part of this program simply involves providing a space for self-testing and have FedEx pick up the samples. The Association for Rural and Small Libraries in return for our part offers a free year membership to the association which has been helpful in past years. During the hot summer months we've only set up the station in the morning so that the samples aren't compromised by the heat but as the seasons change, we'll be able to keep it out longer.

StoryWalk – Recently I received an email from Atlas Strategic Communications who is working with a partnership program through an Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) grant and the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IDAEYC). They asked if our library would be willing to accept 10 Storywalk panels from this grant. I emailed them back and said we would be happy to be a recipient, given the fact that we had been already thinking about it.

I let Darcy over at Parks & Rec know and we both agreed that we would need more than just 10 panels to cover the length of the walking path. So I contacted the distributor for the panels, and they were able to give me a quote for 10 additional panels in the amount of \$3,859.00.

I have tried contacting Desert Sage Health Center to see if they would be willing to partner with us but haven't heard back from them. Darci said she would be working on a possible partnership with St. Luke's to cover on the cost of these additional panels through applying to the Community Health Improvement Fund Grant (CHIF Grant). The library would purchase copies of each story used (one story per month – 3 copies) along with laminating pages for durability, displaying St. Luke's logo along with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, IDAEYC, Atlas Strategic Communications and the Mountain Home Parks & Rec on each panel to show our thanks for their contribution.

Chairperson Mercado brought up that caution of placing panels in various places along the walking path without knowing if we technically are allowed to with housing developments located next to the path. Secretary Venable Harjo asked if Legacy Park could be considered as a possible alternative to the walking path giving the justification of the various events that take place along with the most recent news of Idaho Fish & Game wanting to put more funding into the pond in Legacy, this would help to entice more traction. Director Hochstrasser appreciated both comments and said she would talk to Darcy at Parks & Rec and report back.

Adjourn –

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Trombly moved the meeting be adjourned at 5:57 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Sisson. Motion carried.

Shasta Hochstrasser,
Library Director & Clerk of the Board

Daniel Mercado, Library Board Chair