

Tillamook County Library Board Minutes
Thursday, December 28, 2023; 12:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting

Board Members Present:

Sayde Walker, Madeline Olson, Tim Josi, Nan Devlin, Jennifer Byrne, Jon Orloff

Staff, Commissioner, and Others Present:

Angela Arena, Jenn Wells, Don Allgeier, Mary Faith Bell, Marisa Graham-Collier

Public Input:

There were no community members present.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Sayde Walker at 12:01 p.m. on Thursday December 28, 2023.

Approval of October 2023 Minutes and Budget:

Sayde entertains approval of the November 2023 meeting minutes: Madeline moves to approve, Nan seconds, minutes are approved unanimously.

November Budget and Spending Report:

Jennifer Byne moves to approve, motion seconded.

Note of process: Each month's meeting minutes will be sent out to board members for review sooner than the board packets.

Director's Report:

- Don has developed a new framework and layout for the directors' report.
- The Systems Librarian position will be posted next week: the job description has been finalized. The recruitment for the Bilingual Programming Librarian position will be posted in January as well.
- Mary Faith Bell reports on the recent union bargaining session leading to a tentative agreement with special note of the following:
 - The county is working to move wages up to market rates and has agreed to provide two small COLA's following the 5% given last year.
 - It has been determined that the county will be moving to higher deductible insurance, due to expense. To offset the higher deductible the county will provide a \$500 VEBA, the difference in deductible between the plans.
 - The county can't afford the current retirement program, so future employees will be moved to PERS, though existing employees are grandfathered into the current plan.

- Foundation Bookstore at main continues to leak with excessive rain and has worsened in the last storm. We are looking at bringing in a contractor in the spring to resolve the issue and improve the gutter system.
- A study performed by McKinstry, provided in the board packet, lays out the next 30 years of building needs which will be helpful for developing a 5-year capital spending plan.
- Programs and outreach: Garibaldi and Bay City branches released the salmon that they have been raising.
- Don met with Jean of the Rockaway Beach Friends Group to discuss their interest in the vacant US Bank building.
- Don met with Betsy Chase, President of the North County Friends group and former board member, to discuss her resignation from the post. Craig Nern, former secretary, will be stepping into the role.
- There is an interview with Don and Will Chappel of the Headlight Harold discussing library materials challenges and library processes.
- Don participated in the crisis and communications issues training with ALA.
- Don met with Tillamook Community College Communication Dept. to begin planning for collaboration with community events to come. Angela will be managing this.
- Tillamook and Lincoln Counties met on Dec 21st to discuss LSTA grant.
- Don is running for president of the Core Division of the American Library Association after being urged by the nominating committee to run.
- We have a brochure with a map for where stained-glass art donated by the Faust family has been dispersed and displayed by the libraries throughout the county.

Data Dashboard

We have included a new database, AtoZ World Food, a newly acquired database that has information about food in terms of culture as well as recipes. Usage was low in its first month, but we hope to see these numbers grow with promotion and awareness.

Foundation Update

Jon does not have anything to report for December from the Foundation.

Commissioners Report:

Sandlake Road update: There is an active landslide north of Pacific City. There is a plan to get to a one lane opening with construction starting as soon as January 8, 2024, which is particularly important for emergency services.

The bridge on Miami Foley was rebuilt in the 10 days originally promised.

The County Commissioners are preparing for Doug Olson to be sworn in as County Commissioner to replace David Yamamoto.

Oceanbooks Consortium

Don believes we should at least tentatively move forward with the larger consortium as it will help users connect through Tillamook Bay Community College and along the coastline. The primary downside involves the large undertaking of an ILS migration, but in the end, it will create a library system that is better able to shift and change over time. This is a rare opportunity to increase usability and function while simultaneously reducing costs.

Don requests a motion to move forward with development of the new consortium and integrated library system. Saydee entertains motion, JB moves, seconded by Tim, all in favor and carries unanimously.

Strategic Plan Board Reporting

There are no updates though there is a plan for a sample dashboard to be prepared for January.

New Business Items

There has been a community request for a special meeting to address Tracy Green's concerns about library materials surrounding gender. She states that there are community members who have signed her petition that cannot make it to a noon meeting and are requesting an evening meeting in early January.

It is thoroughly discussed and determined that the public comment allotment at the regularly scheduled meetings is the appropriate time and place for this kind of public input. Special meetings are held for budget reviews, commissioner's meetings, and items within the purview of the natural goings on in county government. It does not serve the function of the board to create a precedent to hold special meetings in this way.

Additionally, the group requesting the special meeting has not followed the current library process regarding reconsideration of materials. Don states that he has encouraged them to follow the process by submitting a claim and meeting with him to discuss the concern. It is unanimously agreed that this step should take place before any further involvement of the board in this issue.

Library Policy Proposal

Don is looking to develop a new written policy around programming after reviewing the Cincinnati Library system process at the behest of the ALA. He will be looking for board approval on policy as written. If approved, he will take it to the commissioners for approval. JB moves to adopt. Unanimously seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.