



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
LIBRARY BOARD - MINUTES  
Thursday, January 17, 2018  
Civic Center Library  
3839 N. Drinkwater Blvd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

**PRESENT:** Laraine Rodgers, Chair; Joe Rubin, Vice Chair; Board Members Sheila Collins, Teresa Kim Quale (arrived at 3:43 p.m.), Shiela Reyman, and Ruth Wachs

**ABSENT:** Board Member Allegra Fullerton

**STAFF:** Barbara Roberts, Interim Library Director; Robbin Gaebler, Senior Manager, Building Operations and Volunteer Services

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Rodgers called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Members present as noted above.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Regular meeting - December 20, 2017**

**BOARD MEMBER COLLINS MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIBRARY BOARD DECEMBER 20, 2017, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. BOARD MEMBER WACHS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).**

**4. OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Carol Leonard spoke about the inconveniences that the new Civic Center evening library hours are causing library patrons who can only use the library in the evenings.

## **5. LIBRARY STAFF REPORTS OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Barbara Roberts, Interim Library Director, presented an update on current issues, projects and events in the library. She announced that the Maricopa County Library Council offers library board members, trustees, and volunteers an opportunity to be selected for an all-expenses paid trip to National Library Legislative Day and represent Maricopa County Libraries. She encouraged any board member who would be interested in the opportunity to fill out the application form.

Library Board Members also have an opportunity to ride in the Parada del Sol Parade on the Community Services float on February 10, 2018.

Ms. Roberts also encouraged all Board members to contact our US Senators and urge them to support S. 2271 that would reauthorize the funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The recruitment to fill the position of Library Director is ongoing. Of 19 qualified applicants, three will have telephone interviews next week. The position of Civic Center Library manager will be open as of Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> due to the current manager's resignation. The positions of tech manager and senior manager are still open because the new organizational chart has not yet been approved. Ms. Roberts will keep the Board up to date on any progress for all of the open positions.

A new publication "Scottsdale Life", a new events calendar, will be in a trial period for one year. In an effort to consolidate publishing costs, the publication will include information for all of Community Services, including the library, parks and recreation, and human services. Approximately 13,000 households will receive the distribution quarterly. Library specific information will continue to be available to patrons via the library's website.

Ms. Roberts noted that the Community Services Budget is ready to send forward to the City Manager and City Council. The CIP Subcommittee is still meeting on capital improvement projects. She feels confident that the Storytime Room project will be approved at a cost of approximately \$300,000; however staff is looking into alternatives that could reduce the cost of the project.

Ms. Roberts recently met with Friends of the Library and encouraged them to build their membership base and review/edit their bylaws which are 4 years out of date.

Scottsdale Heritage Connection has raised approximately \$60,000 so far for creating a new space for the historical collection in the Civic Center Library. Ms. Roberts offered them an alternative space that would not require the expense of construction and demolition. New floorplans are being drafted for what is currently the art gallery space. Ms. Roberts also encouraged them to continue fund raising for the high tech part of their plan.

An RFP is slated to go out to non-profit organizations who might be interested in re-activating the Beneficial Beans café space at Civic Center Library.

## **6. PATRON COMMENT REPORT**

Board Members reviewed the Patron Comment Report.

Chair Rodgers highlighted a positive patron comment replied to by Mustang lead youth librarian Louisa Akins where she suggested that patrons offer ideas about additional book ~~ideas~~ materials they would like to see the library order. Chair Rodgers felt that it was a positive conversation starter.

## **7. LIBRARY BOARD INPUT ON LIBRARY OPERATIONS**

Ms. Roberts initiated an information-gathering exercise with Board Members. Results of the exercise will be shared with the new Library Director and with Community Services Director Bill Murphy.

She posed the following questions to the Library Board Members, who submitted written responses that were later read out loud:

The main functions of the Library Board are:

- Listen, digest, support.
- To help steer the library to remain committed to the Scottsdale community.
- To support all programs and activities.
- To support reading.
- To serve as a check and balance in the library system.
- Outreach, promote, advise, and policy.
- Recommend new changes to policy to improve library services.
- To provide advice, counsel, and encouragement.
- To advocate in the community for the library.

Board Members should advocate to City Council for:

- Support of the library.
- Policy in general.
- Share activities of the board.
- Needs and suggestions.
- Funding.
- Community/government support of the library.
- Support of the City Council to expand the functions of the library in our growing age of technology.
- Support to staff and the community needs that the library must provide.
- Changes to the library to assure Scottsdale has the best library.
- Appropriate budget.
- Keeping the best possible in supporting the community.
- Funding.
- Strategic leadership.
- Technology.
- Alignment with civic goals.
- More funding or no cuts to library funding.

In your opinion, what do you feel the library does best?

- Serves all patrons happily, young and old, rich and poor.
- Provide information, education, and entertainment.
- Supportive of individual learning.
- Community outreach to children below ten.
- Connect the citizens to the community.
- Key source of information.
- Accessible, broad reach, an in-person/online place to learn and study
- Offer resources that many households do not possess; i.e. computers, books, mixed media.
- Offers diverse opportunities to learn about new subjects through classes and speakers.
- Serve as resource to the breadth of community.
- Adapt to new technology.
- Be humane.

What does the library not do that we should?

- Do the people even know that there is a library nearby?
- Not nearly enough PR/marketing.
- Automatic renewal, eliminate/minimize fines and fees.
- Bring additional value to schools.
- Need to support and reach out to all schools.
- More direct access through internet.
- Perhaps more communication about programs available.
- Public outreach about the services offered at the libraries.
- More activities; services for seniors, especially.
- Non-Drivers.
- We fine children and do not issue cards when an adult does not want to pay losses. Kids lose.
- Extend your reach, great story, and tell free for all.
- Information, education, programs, services.
- Increase visibility within community as a resource hub.
- Do away with fines.
- Use color whenever appropriate.

What do you hear the public saying about the library?

- Some people were surprised to hear about the plethora of services available.
- Shocked that many no longer use our library.
- Lack of information.
- In most cases it is outstanding.
- When I say I'm a Board Member, one, tell me a good experience, two, tell me the issues, three, come back to me for information and questions. I route them (unintelligible) and information.
- Nice that it's there, but I would not benefit from becoming a member.
- Response generally very positive.

- Some concerns regarding fines, renewals, access
- Oh, Civic Center is so great. I love going to the library.
- Oh, I haven't been to a library in years.
- Do people even go to the library?
- Love children section activities.
- Beautiful buildings, not enough new books, don't know about classes and lectures.

## **8. LIBRARY BOARD ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2018**

Board Members Reyman and Collins spoke about their interest in acting as chair and the visions they have for the Library Board over the next year.

**SHEILA COLLINS WAS ELECTED LIBRARY BOARD CHAIR BY WRITTEN MAJORITY VOTE. NOTE: THIS ACTION WAS RATIFIED AT THE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 LIBRARY BOARD MEETING.**

**BOARD MEMBER QUALE NOMINATED JOE RUBIN FOR THE POSITION OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE LIBRARY BOARD. BOARD MEMBER WACHS SECONDED THE NOMINATION. JOE RUBIN WAS APPOINTED VICE CHAIR WITH A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).**

## **9. REVIEW LIBRARY BOARD BYLAWS AND ROLES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD**

Board Members reviewed the bylaws and discussed the functions of the Board and the importance of Board Members being visible at community events. Ms. Gaebler recalled a previous discussion with Library's legal counsel about ensuring discussions during Board meetings remained focused on the agenda item topics. Board members did not feel that it was necessary to add any additional language to the bylaws regarding focusing discussions. Ms. Roberts suggested clarifying the process for submitting agenda item requests.

**BOARD MEMBER QUALE MOVED TO APPROVE THE BYLAWS WITH AN AMENDMENT CLARIFYING THAT AGENDA REQUESTS CAN BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIR, THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY, OR THE DIRECTOR. BOARD MEMBER COLLINS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). NOTE: THIS ACTION WAS RESCINDED AT THE FEBRUARY 21, 2018 LIBRARY BOARD MEETING.**

## **10. 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

Board Members reviewed the annual report. It was suggested that the date be removed regarding Board members' attendance at the State of the City Address and the language be changed to read "Attend the State of the City Address".

**VICE-CHAIR RUBIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIBRARY BOARD'S 2017 ANNUAL REPORT AS AMENDED. BOARD MEMBER WACHS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).**

## **11. IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Board Members expressed an interest in an update on the library reorganization.

## **12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vice-Chair Rubin announced that an anticipated ~~up to~~ 90 local authors will be available for personal interaction with patrons at Civic Center Library on Saturday, January 20, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He suggested that Board Members attend the event.

Board Member Quale said that she was surprised during a recent Scottsdale Insurance meeting that only two of the group of people in attendance had library cards. She encouraged Board Members to find opportunities to inspire interest in the library.

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

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