

Library board meeting 10/23/2024

Booard members Shae Hansen, Todd Durant, April Godderidge, Stephanie Nixon attended. Prospective board member Paul Daybell also in attendance. Director Shawn Bliss and Assistant Director Karen Bowling were also present, as was Wade Campbell, City Council member.

Motion to pass minutes from previous meeting 9/18/2024

Todd motioned to approve, April seconded, approved unanimously.

Director's report:

New board member Paul Daybell to be voted in at next city council meeting. April and Todd will be ending their terms in January, and we need to have replacements. Submit suggestions to Shawn.

Board training in February for the new board members.

Smithfield library won the Quality library designation. Recertification is waived for next year as a result.

Director's summit in September. ULA workshop right after, workshops and training, 8 staff went down (closed the library). Summer reading workshop, Karen and Lauren Jones went to this. Archives workshop, Shawn went to this yesterday, we don't have an archive, but we have a special collection, and Shawn and Karen will use archiving practices for at least some of these items, including Smithfield Library historical documents.

New fall programming, star party about 40 people, girls who code third meeting tomorrow, four girls, B-tech will come talk to them about their web development program. Teen programs continue to develop, as do DIY programs, including a bike repair program in September. Partnerships also developing, including CAPSA and Stokes Nature Center. Karen has been visiting preschools, and Ballet Aligned will be doing a Christmas story time. The library is also participating with Smithfield Arts Council to create new Christmas Storybook Festival, with live actors doing displays in our windows. Marci Monson will be here this Saturday to do a reading and sign books.

Karen and Shawn have been working with staff and shifting some of the collection around and expanding some areas, and weeding the paperback collection.

Donation of a text magnifier. Will be setting that up somewhere in the library. We have purchased some magnifiers with LED lights that can be checked out.

Working on annual report, due end of November. This compiles all of our statistical data, and helps to determine our CLEF grant amount and other grants.

Upcoming closures November 11, 28, 29 but will be open on Saturday the 30.

Board:

Replacement for secretary needed as Marty has left the board. We will also need a new director in January when Todd leaves. Todd nominated Stephanie, Stephanie has accepted the nomination. We will vote on the new director in the November meeting.

Revision of collection management policy. A patron recently expressed concern about unspecified items in our collection, but has not scheduled a meeting about the materials and why they are included in our collection. Due to this interaction, the mayor asked us to revise the procedure for submitting a statement of concern to initially require a meeting with the director and/or assistant director prior to submitting their statement of concern. A few other minor edits as well. This change is also reflected in the collection management policy.

Motion to approve the changes to the collection management policy made by Todd, seconded by Stephanie, Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve the changes to the procedure for submitting a statement of concern about library resources made by Todd, seconded by April, approved unanimously.

Discussion of service animal requirements for new policy. Service animals are always allowed in public buildings. Emotional support animals can be excluded from public buildings. We will have to draft a policy at some point, we haven't done so yet. We will get assistance from the city attorney with this policy.

Discussion of patron behavior and unattended children policies for revision. The policy doesn't specify ages, just says young children. A patron recently complained about graphic novels being available for anyone to read, but we would expect small children to be accompanied by a parent and it would be the parent's responsibility to monitor what they're reading. We need to figure out what ages should be allowed in the library unaccompanied, and what the policy could be for the various ages. This will take some amount of time to draft, so we should start thinking about what that policy should be.

The patron behavior and library use policy. The city attorney will most likely be involved in this policy revision. We want to be proactive in the current charged atmosphere so we are prepared for whatever comes up.

Wade Campbell report: property tax did increase this year which can help with future budgets. Otherwise, Wade and the council are pleased with the library and its work.

Todd made motion to adjourn, April seconded. Meeting adjourned.