

**EUGENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

Wednesday, May 21, 2014
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Singer Room, Downtown Library
100 West 10th

Present: Jennifer Geller, Joe Gonzales, Mary Hochberg, Natalie Reeves, and Morgan Vauk

Absent: Jenny Jonak, Angela Peacor, Rose Perius, and

Staff: Connie Bennett, Renee Grube, and LaVena Nohrenberg

Guests: Chelsea Clinton, Kerry Delf, Connie Regali, and Sharon Posner

1. Called to Order and Introductions. Introduced the guests, who will be new Advisory Board members.
2. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda – none.
3. Approval of March Minutes – approved.
4. Public comment – none.
5. Reports:
 - i. Library Services Director: We are gearing up for Summer Reading, which starts June 1st. This program is a priority for Library, and we hope all Advisory Board members participate. We offer free events, and a little something extra, for all ages. Kids and teens receive a free book (courtesy of the Friends of the Library) and entries for raffle prizes. Adults receive a Friends' of the Library tote bag, coupon for Novella Café or Second Hand Prose bookstore, and entries for raffle prizes. This program is especially important for children, because if they don't read during the summer their literacy skills will decline. When the kids sign-up, it is a volunteer who helps them get enrolled and select their book; Advisory Board members received an email from Laura Philips, the Volunteer Coordinator, with more details.

We are preparing for the anticipated reduced Sunday hours; the new hours will be 1pm-6pm. This reduction impacted a number of staff positions. Many of the positions were vacant, but three current employees had their positions impacted, though they did retain employment at the Library.

The new building map for Downtown will be installed by the end of June.

- ii. Executive Director: On June 9, the City Council is expected to vote on the budget. This budget included a reduction to Downtown's Sunday hours and one-time funding for Sheldon. On June 11th, the City Council will receive information about a potential Library Levy. A Budget Committee member asked about the amount of money in the budget for the Library's materials handling system. The system was built to handle the anticipated doubling of circulation when the new building opened eleven years ago; we are now at three times the circulation. The system needs to be renovated, as replacement parts are no longer available and the software is no longer supported. We will also convert from air-pressure to electric power source, which will make the system faster, quieter, and increase capacity. The anticipated cost is \$800,000 and work will likely occur after January 2015.

City Council is holding a public hearing about potentially closing the plaza at Broadway and Willamette at 11pm, and a separate public hearing about requiring dogs that are downtown to be licensed. The City has been conducting listening sessions with residents of the River Road and Santa Clara area; many people recognize that one of the benefits of being a City resident is receiving a free library card.

Eugene is hosting the Neighborhoods USA conference that expects 600 attendees. Recreation is holding their annual We Are Bethel gathering on June 6; the Library will have a booth that is staffed by Friends of the Library volunteers. Washington Jefferson Skate Park grand opening celebration is June 21. The World Junior Track and Field completion will be held July 22 -27; 2,500 athletes from over 150 countries will be participating.

iii. EPL Foundation: Four new people will be joining the Foundation Board, including Angela Peacor. The Foundation has two upcoming smaller fundraising events at local breweries: May 28 at Oakshire and August 7 at Ninkasi. Booked for the Evening will be held September 26, and this year it will be at Valley River Inn.

iv. Friends of EPL: Connie Regali is the new President. Two new people will be joining the Friends Board. The sale in April raised \$79,000. This year's recipient of the Honored Friend award is Ken Ehler, the manager of Second Hand Prose bookstore. The Friends have two upcoming fundraising events: July 15th is a mini book sale held in the Bascom/Tykeson room at the Library and October 23 Pints for a Cause at Ninkasi.

6. Thank you to our outgoing board members: Angela Peacor, Mary Hochberg, Jennifer Geller, and Jenny Jonak. Thank you for all your time and efforts!
7. Info Share: none
8. Ideas for future meeting topics: Update on the Inclusive Environment Assessment recommendations, our relationships with other downtown businesses to address security issues, Library's social media activities

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 16, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m., Singer Room.