

Wasco County Library Service District
Board meeting
May 23, 2023
Location: Dufur, and via Zoom

Board members attending: Corliss Marsh, Rita Rathkey, Tina Coleman, Mary Beechler

Library staff attending: Jeff Wavrunek, Valerie Stephenson, Sarah Tierney, Rita Squires

Meeting called to order: 4:05 p.m.

Minutes: No changes necessary, Tina Coleman moved to approve, seconded by Mary Beechler; passed unanimously

Visitors and interested parties: Dave Mason, a prospective board member replacing Vicki Thomas, who has resigned. Dave introduced himself, and gave some background information. He has many years of experience being on boards.

Director's Reports:

Dufur - Working on ads for the Summer Reading Program, will have Teen Takeover flyers next week. As part of the Teen Takeover, they are planning on refreshing the Hive. The salsa garden last year was a hit, and will plant one again this year. Had a meeting with LEO, got lots of good ideas. Sarah is currently working on an ODE grant; 60% of that must be spent on collection development. If she gets the grant she will use for ebooks. She is also getting a Smartboard, as well as more shelving. Title 1 has installed a Little Free Library on the school grounds.

Micah Steinbach is still doing outreach at Dufur's Potlatch and daycares. It is going well. There are some third graders writing stories to go in the Story Dispensers.

Summer Reading will soon be promoted on the reader board. Children attending summer school will be able to attend summer reading programs this year, which will help boost attendance.

Maupin – Recently had a May the Fourth Star Wars themed event, which was well attended. Had the Oregon State Poet Laureate, Anis Mojgani, for a program. He went to the high school in the afternoon, where he was able to visit two classes.

Has started strategic planning with Darcy Hanning, from the Oregon State Library. For Maupin Daze, the Portland Takio drummers performed in the park. There was also a book sale, summer reading sign-up, and a photo booth inside the library.

For summer reading there are 7 performers coming. There will be an open house at the library celebrating Valerie's graduation from library school. She is currently working on Maupin Reads, which

will be *Girl who wrote in silk*, by Kelli Estes. They have purchased 50 copies of the book to give away. The author will be there on Saturday, September 9th.

The Dalles – Scott Hege, one of the county commissioners, was recently at the library to check out the Story Dispenser. Jeff talked to the Dufur City Clerk regarding paying Micah.

The Star Wars event on May 4th was crowded. Unfortunately, there was a difficult interaction between two patrons. Jeff talked to both of them and feels that all has been resolved amicably.

The painters have started on the outside of the building, hopefully it will be done before the Summer Reading Kickoff event. They will also stain the deck in front of the library.

Aprile Keith, the outreach and programming coordinator, has resigned. Her last day will be June 2nd. We will post the position soon.

Union negotiations have finished and staff will be getting a healthy raise this year.

Planning for summer reading is going well. The kick off will be a big event, similar to last year, which was very popular.

Last Saturday the Extension Office did an outdoor cooking class for teens which was well attended.

Old Business:

An update on the work session - Corliss has been in contact with Matthew Klebes regarding the IGA. He and the city attorney, have been looking at it and red lining parts. After a discussion, it was decided that at least two board members should meet with Matthew and Jonathon before they come to the next Board meeting. The Board agrees that they need to go in with a solid plan, so that they don't spend a lot of time going back and forth on little things. The Board will have another work session on June 5th to flesh out core ideas for the IGA. Mary Beechler will reach out to Tyler Stone and see if the county attorney can take a look at it before they meet with the city manager.

Strategic planning notes were shared by the director. Some areas of concern have been addressed, such as spending more of the budget before the end of the fiscal year. There were some safety concerns that have been shared with the city manager. The Board felt that the building needs a structural engineering assessment.

There was discussion regarding a drive-thru outside book drop, Jeff shared that he talked to some staff regarding this, and the consensus was that they didn't want one due to possible difficulties and safety concerns in getting it emptied. After some discussion, the Board asked Jeff to push forward on this, as they think an outside drop would benefit the public.

The Board questioned whether the director could delegate some tasks to other staff to reduce some of his workload.

Jeff has talked to the Neon Sign Museum regarding getting a sign for the library.

New Business – There was discussion regarding Dave Mason replacing Vicki Thomas, now that she has resigned from the Library Board. This is the at-large position, and he would finish out her term. Tina Coleman made the motion to approve Dave Mason for the at-large position; Mary Beechler seconded that motion. There was no further discussion, a vote was made, which was unanimous.

Hotspots – because the hot spots were purchased with a grant, the library has been checking them out to the homeless population. Some of the hotspots are having difficulty getting returned. There was a discussion as to whether or not the library should let the unhoused continue to check out expensive equipment, once the grant is finished. It was suggested that someone contact the pallet shelter manager about possible solutions.

Library van – at a recent meeting, the director said that there was talk about hybrid and electric vehicles. After a brief discussion, the Board indicated that this is not the preferred option for the new library van. The wait time for such a vehicle is long and the range is not practical for a vehicle traveling countywide.

Finance: The Board likes that more of the budget is being spent. When the budget message is generated next year, it was suggested that the second paragraph be removed.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 20th, 2023, at 4:00 in The Dalles.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50

WASCO COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE
DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Corliss Marsh, Chairman

Mary Beechler, Vice Chairman

Rita Rathkey, Board Member

Tina Coleman, Board Member