

Astoria Library Board Meeting
Astoria Public Library
February 27, 2018
5:30 pm.

Present: Library Board members David Oser, Susan Stein (via telephone), Kimberley Chaput and Chris Womack. Staff Library Director Jimmy Pearson.

Excused: Kate Deeks

Call to Order: Chair Pro Tem David Oser called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of October 2017 and November 2017 were approved as presented.

Board Reports: There were none.

Library Director's Report:

Director Pearson reported on the contract for architectural services, which was approved at the February 26, 2018 City Council meeting. He gave a copy of the contract to each Board member and explained why he believed Hennebery Eddy was the perfect company for the job. Their first day on site is March 16, 2018 and their final building evaluation report will be presented to the City by June 15, 2018. Basic Conceptual drawings will be developed for fundraising. He gave a tentative timeline of the first two phases of the renovation project. Ruth Metz has been hired as a consultant and will provide invaluable guidance drawing from her experience as author of the Library Renovation Study from 2013.

Board members expressed interest in meeting with the architect when they visit the library in March. The Board and Staff discussed availability and Director Pearson agreed to coordinate with everyone so that Board members could be present when the architect arrived.

Director Pearson also reported that as part of Libraries Change Lives, reading dog Maisy recently noticed a struggling reader and helped to calm him so he could keep reading. The Play Away audio books have been popular, so, he has decided to continue offering the service. He told of a couple who lived outside of Astoria and had not wanted to pay for a library card. However, upon learning what was going on with the library, they decided to purchase cards.

- The *Daily Astorian* published a story about the library on the front page of the February 27, 2018 newspaper. Spaces inside the library are still being rearranged to open up the floor, declutter, and make spaces more appealing. Also, furniture is being reupholstered.
- Circulation and library usage is steadily rising and the Play Away audio books have been very popular. Story time continues to grow and he believed the library needed a full-time family services librarian on staff. He briefly shared ideas for obtaining a full-time librarian despite the City's limited resources.

Update on ALFA Activities: No update was available.

Update on Foundation:

David Oser reported that Kate Deeks has been hired to start the fundraising campaign. The Foundation has plenty of funds for this phase of the campaign, which will focus on working with large donors and foundations. Ami is also on staff to manage volunteers.

Director Pearson added that Ami would also be researching grants that the library could write for the City to help fund the renovation.

David Oser announced that a benefit for the Foundation would be held on March 27, 2018 at Fort George Brewery from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The Foundation will get a percentage of Fort George's sales and will host a raffle and silent auction.

New Business: There was none.

Old Business: There was none.

Public Comments: There were none.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

The next meeting was scheduled March 27, 2018.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Pinyerd, ABC Transcription Services, Inc.