

Astoria Library Board Meeting
Astoria Public Library
July 25, 2017
5:30 pm.

Present: Library Board members Kate Summers, David Oser, Chris Womack, and Kimberley Chaput. Staff Library Director Jimmy Pearson.

Excused: Susan Stein.

Call to Order: Chair Kate Summers called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of June 27, 2017 were approved as presented.

Board Reports:

Chair Summers briefly reported on the Foundation meeting, networking at the Column, and the Hal Snow memorial.

Chris Womack reported on historic book stores that he visited while in Greece.

Library Director's Report:

Director Pearson updated the Board on two new employees and reported on the following:

- Library Facilities – He is waiting on a return call from Tongue Point about painting and Staff continues to relocate furniture. LED lights have been installed in the Director's office, which will help preserve the historic collections.
- Library Programs – Summer reading has been going well.
- Collections Update – An introductory collection of 70 audio titles will be available from Playaway on a trial basis. He gave details about pricing and the preloaded listening devices.
- IT Update – After speaking with iFocus about Chromebooks, he is now considering laptops because Chromebooks are not compatible with the library's software. Staff has a new scanner that has increased efficiency.
- Director's Activities – He updated the Board on the most recent Staff meeting, which included a tour of the Flavel mansion. The tour was great for morale, so he would plan a similar event to be held quarterly. He's been working with Public Works and City Manager Estes on the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for renovation work. He assisted with the interviews for Aquatic Center Supervisor and attended a Libraries ROCC meeting. City Council recently approved his request to rename the library's Astorian collection as the Bruce Berny Archives. A joint meeting will be held on August 14th with the Library Board, Library Foundation, and ALFA.

Chair Summers suggested the regular Library Board meeting scheduled for August 22nd be cancelled.

David Oser asked if a self-checkout machine would be economical. Director Pearson briefly explained how the machines work and noted that self-checkout stations are helpful to those who are comfortable with the technology when there is a line. He would like to install a one to see how well it is used. The Board and Staff discussed the pros and cons of self-checkout machines and shared ideas for implementing the technology.

Director Pearson shared several collections of historic photographs and newspapers and explained how he planned to display them. He noted some of the items could help drive fundraising, while other items would need to be disposed of. He planned to work with Board, City Staff, and the renovation architect to decide what to do with each item after the renovation.

Update on ALFA Activities:

No updates were available.

Update on Foundation:

David Oser updated the Board on the Foundation's most recent meeting at the Column and said the Foundation was ready to purchase donor management software. He reminded that the joint meeting was scheduled for August 14th at 5:30 pm in the Flag Room of the Library. The Foundation planned to begin meeting every second Monday in perpetuity. He briefly discussed the need to update the bylaws and increased community interest in volunteering to assist with fundraising.

New Business:

Item 8(a): Discussion of Live Streaming

David Oser said he did not believe very many people would watch the Board's meetings, but live streaming could serve as an example of what governing bodies could do. Chris Womack stated he had a device that would allow meetings to be streamed live on Facebook.

The Board discussed the benefits and obstacles associated with live streaming government meetings. They also discussed live streaming's impact on transparency, public access, the renovation, and generating conversations in the community. Chris Womack explained how live streaming worked and described some of the equipment needed. He offered to bring his equipment to a future meeting and suggested Director Pearson bring up the idea of live streaming at the next department heads meeting.

Item 8(b): Review of Bylaws and Resolutions

Chair Summers suggested this item be postponed until Susan Stein was present, as she had requested the topic be added to the agenda. The Board agreed.

The Board and Staff discussed adding a Vice Chair, reviewing Board policies, and reviewing Staff's procedure manual.

Old Business: None

Public Comments: There were none.

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Items for Next Meeting's Agenda: Review of Bylaws and Resolutions. The next regular Board meeting would be on September 25, 2017.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,