

**MINUTES**

On April 11, 2022, the AMARILLO LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD met at 4:00 p.m. for a regular meeting at the Southwest Branch Library, 6801 SW 45<sup>TH</sup>, Amarillo, Texas.

| VOTING MEMBERS                    | PRESENT | NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT | NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Shawn Read, Chair                 | YES     | 10                                  | 9                        |
| Howard Rodriguez-Mori, Vice-Chair | YES     | 5                                   | 5                        |
| Lillian C Withrow                 | YES     | 2                                   | 2                        |
| Monica Smith-Hart                 | YES     | 31                                  | 19                       |

Also in attendance:

Amanda Barrera  
 Courtney White  
 Valisa McHugh  
 Silvia Shaver  
 DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES, CITY OF AMARILLO  
 ASST CITY ATTORNEY, CITY OF AMARILLO  
 SOUTHWEST BRANCH LIBRARIAN, CITY OF AMARILLO  
 LIBRARY SECRETARY, CITY OF AMARILLO

1. Call to Order and Introductions. Mr. Shawn Read, Chair, established a quorum and called the regular meeting of the AMARILLO LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD to order at 4:03 p.m. Ms. Amanda Barrera introduced Ms. Valisa McHugh, Southwest Branch Librarian.

2. Public forum. Mr. Rusty Donaldson asked if the library Board discussed the Amarillo Police Department's interaction with children at the Amarillo Public Library. Mr. Shawn Read mentioned that the Library Board reviewed the Policy for Unattended Children, and they found everything is in order. Ms. Amanda Barrera said that she reviewed the trespass orders the library has on file since 2006; out of 121, only one of them involves a 13-year-old child, and he was not taken into custody.

Ms. Dixie Dawn Ferguson asked if there are some issues letting the homeless population into the library. Ms. Amanda Barrera responded that the library does not have issues receiving them.

Ms. Linda Golden mentioned she is concerned that the homeless population cannot read, so if they cannot read, they cannot fill out a job application to get a job. Ms. Amanda Barrera offered to talk to her after the meeting about the Adult Literacy Program available at the Amarillo Public Library.

3. Minutes. Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on FEBRUARY 14, 2022. Motion was made by Ms. Monica Smith-Hart, seconded by Dr. Howard Rodriguez-Mori, and unanimously carried to approve such minutes as written.

4. Review Policy for Unattended Children. The Library Board had public forum in the previous meeting, asking about interaction between police officers and children in the library. Ms. Amanda Barrera provided the Policy for Unattended Children for the Board to review. Mr. Shawn Read stated that he reviewed the policy, and it seems standard and fair to him. Ms. Monica Hart stated that the policy seems reasonable, comprehensible, and clear to her.

5. Presentation and Consideration regarding the proposed Mobile HotSpot Borrowing Agreement. Ms. Amanda Barrera brought one Mobile HotSpot to show it to Board Members. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 included \$7.17 billion for Emergency Connectivity Fund. Through that program, libraries are eligible to use that funding to purchase connected devices and broadband internet connections for offsite use by library patrons who might not have internet access. Amarillo Public Library received 50 hotspots. Each library location will receive 10. Of those, nine will check out for two weeks, with up to three renewals allowed if there are not holds on the device. One hotspot at each of the libraries will be designated as a "Lucky Duck" hotspot; it only checks out for 5 days, and no holds or renewals are allowed on it.

Dr. Howard Rodriguez-Mori asked if the borrowing agreement will be available in English and Spanish. Ms. Amanda Barrera responded that the library would provide it in English and Spanish.

Motion was made by Mr. Shawn Read, to approve the Amarillo Public Library Mobile HotSpot Borrowing Agreement, seconded by Dr. Howard Rodriguez-Mori, and unanimously carried.

6. Presentation and Discussion by the Director of Library Services on Current Departmental Issues and Activities.

A. Friends of the Library: April book sale by appointment will be for three weeks, from April 4 through April 23.

B. The Friends met on April 7 at the Amarillo Zoo to see in person the StoryWalk that has been completed. The book for May will be *Hello, Hippo! Goodbye, Bird!* by Kristyn Crow.

C. Programming and events at all APL locations: Board members received an April Calendar of Events at the Library.

The Seed Library Launch will be on May 14. In conjunction with that event, APL is planning to have some come-and-go gardening-related programs and activities available. The initial collection that we will have to offer is seeds for two flowers: cosmos and zinnias; two vegetables: cucumbers and black-eyed peas, and one herb, which will be dill.

Registration for the Summer ESL classes will be held on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Summer Reading Club will start on June 1<sup>st</sup>; participants will be able to log their minutes through July 31<sup>st</sup>, and they will have through the month of August to redeem prizes. The theme is "Oceans of Possibilities".

D. Southwest Branch Activities – Valisa McHugh, Southwest Branch Librarian: Ms. Valisa McHugh talked about current and upcoming programs at Southwest Branch.

#### 7. Discuss Items for Future Agendas.

Ms. Monica Smith-Hart announced that she is resigning from the Library Advisory Board. Members thanked her for serving on the board.

Mr. Shawn Read proposed to review the Library's Adult Policy, and if possible, share information on the Adult Literacy Program, anything that specifically targets homeless population.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m. This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the City Library Department.

*Shawn Read*

Shawn Read

ATTEST: *Amanda Barrera*

Amanda Barrera, Director of Library Services