

Library Commission approved minutes as presented on Nov 8, 2017.

1. CALLED TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Kathleen Poulsen, Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Library Commission to order at 6:30PM on Monday October 2, 2017.

Members Present: Kathleen Poulsen, Vice-Chair; Nickie Augustine; Jon Youngberg, Secretary; Valyrie Ingram;

Members Absent: Pamela Bailey, Chair (excused); Elizabeth Beechwood (excused);

Staff: Colleen Winters, Library Director

Council Liaison: Timothy Rippe

Others: None

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: None.

3. APPROVE LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF Sep 6, 2017:

MOTION: Valyrie moved, seconded by Kathleen, to approve the Sep 6, 2017 minutes as presented. **MOTION CARRIED** by all.

4. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

5a. FOUNDATION REPORT: Colleen Winters shared comments about the activities of the Library Foundation of Forest Grove:

- a) Held a Foundation Board Meeting last week.
- b) Maggie of Maggie's Buns will hold a "Books & Buns" fundraiser dinner for the Foundation on the evening of Thurs Oct 26 (5:30 to 8PM) at the UCC Church.
- c) Colleen discussed need for Foundation fundraising to be about raising money for some goal or goals in particular. Need to have an overview of their fundraising campaign that they could present.
- d) See the Library Foundation of Forest Grove's web site (www.fglf.org).

5b. FRIENDS REPORT: Colleen Winters shared comments about the activities of the Friends of the Forest Grove Library:

- a) The Fall Used book sale in the Rogers Room is scheduled for the week of Mon Oct 23 thru Sat Oct 28, during all normal library open hours each day. Leftover books will be collected by a new recycler the following Monday.
- b) The latest Friends newsletter is being mailed to members this week.
- c) The Friends web site is at: fglibraryfriends.org.

5c. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: Timothy Rippe shared comments about the recent activities of the Forest Grove City Council:

- a) Mentioned upcoming Nov 7, 2017 election and City Levy vote.
- b) City Council financial support for Family Justice Center of Washington County (in Beaverton) for this budget year.
- c) Heard Police Dept's Strategic Plan (18 to 24 month process).
- d) Heard Metro's policy proposal for a Regional Food Scraps plan, for businesses with a lot of food waste. Want to get more food waste out of landfill and turn it into compost and other useful materials.
- e) Heard presentations on sidewalk and corner ADA ramps, helping remove barriers to access.
- f) Resolution passed approving and adopting City of Forest Grove Behavior rules for Library Users. Questions asked about safety of library staff. Safety of library staff is a high priority.
- g) Beginning major effort to reorganize the City Code, for ease of searching. Will be digitized and placed on city web site.
- h) Anna Ruggles won award as Oregon City Recorder of the year.

5d. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Colleen Winters reported these items:

- a) **Held in-service meeting for library staff** Mon Sept 11. Presentation on upcoming City Levy. Exclusion Policy explained, discussed how it will work at the library, starting Oct 1, 2017. Also reviewed updated Behavior Policy, many cases discussed. Warnings may be given first. Last resort is to exclude a library visitor for 90 days
- b) Colleen attended a **statewide meeting of Library Directors**. (60 attendees). Some highlights were: (1) Opioid Abuse. Extra training for problem. (2) "Sharp containers" are in some libraries, need to get these? (3) Patron behavior stories (4) Libraries are making changes about fines. Some are removing all fines. Washington County removing fines on children's material is still not seen as "leading edge".
- c) Colleen suggested again that the Library Commission consider the issue of fines. The FGCL only started to charge fines in 2009.

6. DISCUSSION OF ITEMS:

a) Timothy reviewed “**Homelessness in Forest Grove**” presentation made to the City Council recently. Many reasons for homelessness. No one fix for all. Housing costs being high hurt problem. 2017 winter sheltering plans discussed. Coalition of community organizations, churches, government agencies is being formed. City is working on a 10-year plan. Help with rent in some way considered. Better to prevent someone from becoming homeless, and to stay in home. City Council heard five suggested possible next steps. In western Washington County, currently no organization is taking the lead. No agency or coalition. On one day earlier in 2017, 33 adults and 5 children were counted as homeless in Forest Grove.

Timothy said there has been a housing gap caused by recent economic downturn & recovery. Housing supply is short. Harder to get home loans. Colleen mentioned that there are several reasons for homelessness. High housing costs, mental and physical problems. Some are “home-free” or homeless by choice. Some have “pet problems”, etc., and would rather avoid rules that shelters have.

b) WCCLS Policy meeting (Library Directors) was held at McMEnamin’s recently. Digital patron services to be improved, and made easier to get to and use. Via internet and phone access methods. There are a number of obstacles.

c) “Books on Trial” Cultural Series event held Sep 19. Fun event explored reasons why four particular books should or should not be “banned” from our library. Reasons were discussed in a pretend trial room format, with a prosecutor and defender making the case for each book, and a jury to decide (they decided to retain all four books).

Continuing attendance concerns for Cultural Series events – considering possible reasons, including: time of year, nice vs. cold & rainy weather, events held too often each month, etc.

d) Library Card issues. Colleen asked the Library Commission to start thinking about issues relating to library cards. There are some WCCLS county-wide rules, but some local library control is possible.

One issue relates to rules on getting a library card. A homeless person can get a library card. There are several types of library cards, often with different services allowed, and different rules to obtain them.

The Student Library Card mentioned at previous Library Commission meetings is definitely happening. Want to get library cards into kid’s hands. Forest Grove shares the local School District with Cornelius, and the Cornelius Library already

provides student library cards.

Washington County libraries have many different rules for children's library cards. There is a concern about confidentiality. Do parents have rights to access info on use of a children's library card? What if the parent does not have the card or card number? A long-time policy says no access to info in this last case.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Library Commission meeting will be held on Wed Nov 8, 2017 at 6:30PM in the Rogers Room at the library.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, Vice-Chair Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 8PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Jon Youngberg, Library Commission Secretary