

APL Board of Trustees Minutes

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Present: Mamie Ney, Doris Bonneau, Katie Boss, Lisa Cesare, Marissa Deku, Liza Dimitri, Alfreda Fournier, Pat Gautier, Michael Malloy, Nicole Rancourt, Susan Weiss, Haley Warden, and Bethany Lyons

1. Call to Order/Introductions

The online meeting was called to order at 7:35 am. Lilly Huang, executive owner and chef of Wei-Li Restaurant, and local realtor, was introduced to the board.

2. What have you been reading?

Susan- Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell

Lisa - Downeast by Gigi Georges

Liza - Untamed by Glennon Doyle

Mike - The Committed by Viet Thanh Nguyen

Katie - All About the Planets, PS The APL has a telescope that patrons can borrow.

Doris - Guest Book by Sarah Blake

Haley - Attention Merchants by Tim Wu

Mamie - Perfect Murder by Jeffrey Archer

Bethany- ARC of The Last House on the Street by Diane Chamberlain

Pat - The Book of Two Ways by Jodi Piccolt

3. Approval of the June 21, 2021 Minutes

The meeting minutes from the June 15, 2021 meeting were approved after a motion by Lisa and seconded by Liza.

4. Director's Report

Mamie stated that the Director's report stands as written with nothing to add. She stated that the Library is in good shape in regards to COVID and hopes this can continue.

5. Engagement Director's Report

Haley reported that she drafted a survey that will "take the temperature" of our patrons. A copy of the survey was provided to board members for feedback. She hopes to send this out in mid to late September. One suggestion was made to survey question #5 to add "borrowing books". If there is any additional feedback, please contact Haley.

6. "Fun" Raising Committee Update/Nicole

Update was provided by Haley. The Book Around Town had a debrief hosted by Dan. In mid-September, Haley plans to send out a four question survey to the businesses that donated goods to get their feedback. The committee decided to run smaller fundraisers once a month through December. These will be called "APL After Dark: Craft n' Laugh". Sessions will be \$20 each or an advance order of all four for \$60. First session is September 23 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM and will be an arm knit cowl. The three other sessions will be (2) mosaic trivet, (3) macrame coaster, (4) painted wine glass. Light refreshments will be served. Mamie pointed out that it is unusual for a public library to

charge for an event, but where this is a specific fundraiser, that it is permitted. Promotion of this fundraiser will be in early September.

7. Nominations to the Board/ Governance Committee

Lilly Huang, local business owner and realtor, has been nominated by the Governance Committee and will be voted upon as a new Board member at the September Annual Meeting. Lilly and her family have been long time patrons of the library. Mamie will ask about interest from other names that have been provided to her. The board talked about expanding its numbers as it is quite small and said they have not had many nominees. The volunteers on the committee for the Director's evaluation include Pat, Lisa and Alfreda. The Governance committee reported that they will continue to meet on Zoom as they are a small group.

8. Mamie's Action Plan/Mamie

Mamie re-shared her action plan with Board members that did not receive them. She reported she has been working with staff to develop the strategic plan, which project out about six months due to the uncertainty of COVID restrictions. She said the library is ready to pivot should restrictions change again. Pat stated that she liked the step-by-step goals and who is responsible for what. Mamie thanked Haley for her help with this document. Future director's reports will report out goals and their progress. Lisa and Alfreda have been having issues receiving documents/emails from the library. Mamie suggested Brian Usher be contacted for help.

9. Annual Meeting Plans/ Mamie

The annual meeting will be on September 30 starting at 5:00 PM. A social will be held from 5-5:30 PM, library business will be conducted from 5:30-6:00 PM. From 6-6:30 PM, we will have guest speaker Josh Bodwell, and editorial director from Godine Publishing in Boston. He will speak via Zoom. Mamie reported that invites will be sent by early September and we need at least 21 people present. Discussed whether the event will be in-person or virtual, or both. A final decision has not yet been made.

10. Lewiston Public Library Report/Marissa

Marissa reported that the LPL does not hold Board meetings in the summer and the last meeting was in May. She said that the LPL has a new logo which coincides with the City's rebranding since the library is a city department. COVID protocols are ongoing.

11. Other Questions/Miscellaneous Business

The Board asked for an update on CIBO Cafe. Mamie stated that she will talk to the owner, Corwin St. Pierre, at the end of August (he knows about the meeting) and she has not been charging him rent during the pandemic. He has discontinued curbside pick up and is once again allowing customers to come into the business. An update of this topic will be added to the September Board meeting agenda.

Discussed the response to the elimination of library late fees. Mamie stated that this just started on 7/1/21 and that most patrons were surprised. The library is once again charging \$1 for audiobooks and DVDs.

A question was asked if there will be a separate board meeting in September, in addition to the annual meeting. Mamie has not made a decision on that yet, and is waiting to hear back from the accountants.

Doris will be leaving the Board. She was thanked for her many years of service and there were many nice comments made.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 AM with a motion by Alfreda and a second by Lisa.

Signed:

Bethany Lyons, APL Administrative Assistant

Date: _____