

City of Bastrop Public Library Board

Meeting Minutes

February 05, 2024

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Rebecca Bennett at 6:02 pm.

The members present were Lisa Gossett, Sally Keinarth, Jennifer Leisure, Laura Goodwin, Nancy Wood, Bonnie Pierson Library Director, Absent members included Cheryl Lee City Council Liaison and Meagan Webb.

Guests present at the meeting were Monica Carson, Carl Bees, Carol Spencer, James Richard, Anna Tully, and Margarite Igor.

2. Citizen Comments – Margarite Igor spoke on the topic of books found in the library.

3. Minutes Approval

A. Consider action to approve the Bastrop Public Library Minutes from January 08, 2024, with amendment made. Sally Keinarth moved to approve the minutes. Nancy Wood seconded the motion, and it was carried.

4. Announcements

A. The library will be closed Friday, March 1st for observation of Texas Independence Day.

B. Wednesday, March 6th at 5:00 pm The Friends of the Library will host Ryan Holiday as a guest speaker.

C. Announcements from individual board members: Lisa Gossett shared information about the upcoming 19th Annual Bastrop Empty Bowl 2024 event. This will occur Saturday, February 17th at the Bastrop Convention and Exhibit center.

5. Reports

A. Library Director's report

i. Programming:

- January 11th and the 25th the new two programs for adults, "Meet at the Library" took place. The attendance was low, and the library is looking to improve public awareness of these programs.
- Saturday, January 27th, the History Talk series program began. This was the first of four planned presentations. Robbie Sanders, chair of the Fairview Cemetery Advisory Board, presented about the Fairview Cemetery. Fifty-nine people attended this program.

- The library hosted two children’s activities as part of the City of Bastrop’s Mardi Gras celebration on Saturday, February 3rd. The activities included live music traditional to the Louisiana region. 375 people attended this event.
- Another adult program is scheduled to start on Thursday, February 22nd. The program named “Bring Your Own Craft “(BYOC) will offer a time that participants can bring their individual projects and work in the company of fellow crafters.
- During Spring Break, beginning the week of Monday, March 11th, extra programming will be added. One of the activities will be a Pi-Scavenger Hunt. Participants of this activity can enter their name into a drawing for a gift card from the local café The Bearded Baking Company. Other crafts will be available as well as LEGO® Free Build Day for kids.
- As noted in the agenda packet other programs continue with popularity and attendance is improving.

ii. Noteworthy:

- Patricia Norton, Library Clerk celebrated her one-year anniversary with the library on January the 12th.
- Eva Bernal, Youth Services Librarian has been with the library for 90 days as of January 17th.
- Terry Carwell, Circulation Associate celebrated his fifth-year anniversary on February 4th.
- Shelia Bowman, Finance Associate celebrated her twenty-five-year anniversary with the library on January 23rd.
- Bastrop City Council approved the Library User Responsibility and Conduct policy during a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 23rd.
- Library Associate Shelia Bowman retired from the library after 20 years of service. Shelia’s last day of work was January 31st. The library staff celebrated this occasion with a party on January 30th.
- The 2023 Texas Public Libraries Annual Report 2023 opened on January the 3rd. The Bastrop Public Library is required to participate in this report to maintain the library’s current accreditation. The report is due by April 30th.

iii. Updates:

- Five applications have been received for the Children’s Services Associate position. Four interviews have been scheduled.
- The library board workplan has been completed and awaiting further instructions from the city on how to proceed.
- Community feedback has been positive regarding the new expanded hours, increased programming, and the book collection that is available.

B. Statistical Comparison Report:

The full report is available within the agenda packet. Areas that continue to show increases are programming that is offered to the library patrons, increased facility door count, and total book check outs.

C. Monthly Financial Report: See agenda packet for Financial Report.

D. Fiscal Year 2024 Goals Quarterly Review Report:

Bonnie Pierson, Library Director shared a report on fiscal year goal progress. This report covered the period of the first quarter of fiscal year 2024. The full report is included in the agenda packet.

Bastrop Public Library continues to strive towards contributing to the community in areas of: Community Engagement, History & Culture, Lifelong Learning, Books & Reading, Culture of Service, and Administrative procedures.

6. Presentation-none

7. Workshop

A. Citizen Comment: Carol Spencer spoke on Policy Review Schedule.

B. Policy Review Schedule workshop presented by Bonnie Pierson, Library Director.

Included in the agenda packet is the full report with information on how often and when policy reviews occur.

C. Bonnie Pierson, Library Director presented a discussion on the Library User

Responsibility and Conduct Policy. This was a discussion in response to the January 23rd Bastrop City Council meeting at which some citizens voiced concerns about the policy.

During the discussion we looked over the policy (which was approved at the Bastrop City Council meeting on Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024).

8. Items for Individual Consideration- None

9. Adjournment of meeting at 6:58 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Laura Goodwin, Secretary

Rebecca Bennett, President

