

City of St. Helens
Library Board
Minutes from Monday, July 12, 2021
St. Helens Public Library via ZOOM

Members Present

Becky Bean
Rob Dunn
Melisa Gaelrun-Maggi, Past Chair
Amanda Heynemann
Jana Mann
Jessica Sturdivant

Members Absent

Dan Davis, Chair
Diana Wiener

Guests

Councilors in Attendance

Staff Present

Margaret Jeffries, Library Director
Dan Dieter, Library Board Secretary



CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:17 pm by Past Chair Gaelrun-Maggi.

INVITATION TO CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Minutes were reviewed and approved.

ELECT NEW VICE CHAIR: The group decided to postpone this discussion until the next meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT POSSIBLE LIBRARY BOARD ACTIVITIES IN THE COMING YEAR: TOUR A MAKERSPACE: The group revisited the idea of touring a Multnomah County Library makerspace, and it was decided that we should wait until it is fully open. UPDATE THE LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT: The group discussed the desire to potentially update the Library's mission statement. There was a suggestion to look at other libraries for ideas, and bring back information for the full board. Member Bean would like to participate in this process. PARTICIPATE IN THE MAKERSPACE RIBBON CUTTING AND OPEN HOUSE: The group discussed the Makerspace opening in October. It is anticipated that there will be some dignitaries in attendance. Youth Librarian Kolderup will likely need assistance for the open house, and it was suggested

that if board members are available, they could come by and offer to help. RE-LAUNCH OF THE BOOK CLUB: Past Chair Gaelrun-Maggi described how the club process worked in the past. Member Dunn asked if there was an age limitation. The group discussed identifying a theme for each meeting versus having everyone read the same book. This has worked well in the past. It was decided that the first club meeting this year would be August 31st and the theme would be 'what did you read last summer'. TRUNK OR TREAT: Director Jeffries described the history of the Trunk or Treat program, and gave details of how it worked with last year's 'Drive Through Boo.' NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH – NOVEMBER: Member Bean described the National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) process and how the St Helens community has participated in the past. The organization has not given permission to writing groups to meet in person yet, but this could happen as soon as September. Member Bean has been a Municipal Liaison, but it is unknown if she will continue in that role. It is unknown if the Liaison role can be shared, but it would be helpful if other board members could assist with the group's activities. Member Mann stated that she would like to assist and she also suggested that in addition to the November activities, perhaps the group could look at holding a 'writers read' event in the spring. This would give local writers an opportunity to present their own material. UPDATE THE STRATEGIC PLAN IN 2022: Director Jeffries detailed some of the work that was done with the 2016 strategic planning event, which was a 5 year plan ending this year. The group will need to review the old plan and determine what any new plans need to look like going forward. OTHER IDEAS?: Director Jeffries invited board members to come to the Library for a tour.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: LIBRARY'S RECENT ROLE AS A COOLING CENTER: Director Jeffries described how the Columbia Center became a cooling center during the recent heat wave. The Library and the Rec Center were both designated as cooling centers, and despite the lack of preparation, Library hours were extended to include late hours on the days that were the hottest. There is a debriefing that Director Jeffries will attend to learn more about how the City can be better prepared the next time. Member Bean suggested that next time there should be notices posted at local shops and stores telling residents where to find the cooling centers. LIBRARY ASSISTANT JOB POSTING: Director Jeffries stated that the listing for the new Library Assistant has been posted. It will stay open until filled. ARPA FUNDS: Director Jeffries stated that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds might be available from the State Library as well from the City of St Helens. Reference Librarian Herren-Kenaga and Director Jeffries have written a proposal to request funding from the State Library, and Youth Librarian Kolderup and Director Jeffries are working on a proposal for submission to the City. CITIZEN'S DAY IN THE PARK – SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH: Director Jeffries stated that this is usually a well attended event and this year the new play equipment will be featured. Informational tables will be hosted by the Library (Youth Librarian Kolderup) as well as Head Start and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library organization. FUTURE MEETINGS IN PERSON: Director Jeffries asked how board members felt about meeting in person, and there was a suggestion that we might want to have some meetings at the Columbia Center and some on Zoom, as online meetings are more convenient for family obligations. It was decided that the August meeting, which includes an ethics presentation by Rachael Barry, will be held in the Auditorium. FRIENDS BOOK SALE: Director Jeffries stated that the

Friends are planning to have a book sale on the last Saturday in August. The book shelves have been moved back into the hallway and are waiting to be anchored to the floor. There may also be another sale in October. The Native American Rehabilitation Association (NARA) and several other groups have reached out to inquire about getting donations of books from the Friends inventory.

CITY COUNCILOR'S REPORT: N/A

BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS / COMMENTS / QUESTIONS: Member Sturdivant commented that there should be a transportation plan to get the elderly to cooling centers when the temperatures pose a health risk.

SUMMARIZE ACTION ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, August 9, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. at the Columbia Center.

ADJOURNMENT: Past Chair Gaelrun-Maggi adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

✍

Respectfully submitted by:

Library Board Secretary, Dan Dieter

2021-2022 Library Board Attendance Record

P=Present E=Excused Absence U=Unexcused Absence

Date	Bean	Davis	Dunn	Gaelrun-Maggi	Heynemann	Mann	Sturdivant	Wiener	VACANT
07-12-2021	P	U	P	P	P	P	P	U	
08-9-2021									
09-13-2021									
10-11-2021									
11-8-2021									
12-13-2021									
01-10-2022									
02-14-2022									
03-14-2022									
04-11-2022									
05-9-2022									
06-13-2022									