

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm 2/10/22

**Present:**

Charlene Adams

Eva Journey

Jamie Frick

Mailey Brewer

Susan Coleman

**Staff:**

Megan Dazey, Library Director

Brandon Neish, Finance Director

**Approval of 01/14/22 Minutes.**

Minutes approved as written

Updates:

Don is absent today.

This afternoon the Admin Finance Property Committee interviewed the candidate for the Library Advisory Board. They will need final approval from the City Council at the next meeting. Hopefully they will be able to join us at the next Library Board meeting in March.

**Report of the Librarian:**

Dazey went over the submitted report.

Circulation is up 20% over December. This is after December being 20% higher than November.

Comments about report:

Question about people hanging out in the lobby if they are just using the Wi-Fi or what they are doing. - Generally they are charging a phone or shopping the Friends of the Library Booksale.

Brief discussion about adding more hours back to the open schedule. -Dazey is meeting with the pro-tem City Manager next week to discuss this.

When looking for volunteers for the gardening out front, ask at high school or key club. – Yes, we will put out a call when the weather changes.

**Fiscal Report:**

Niesh reported, Lots of good news. Not many changes from last month. We have already received 90% of the tax revenues that were anticipated. We are still anticipating additional property tax revenue, currently at \$20,00 anticipated.

One really good piece of news, the Library has received an initial distribution from sale of the property in Colorado. We received \$500,000 with the rest anticipated later this year. We anticipate at least another \$100,000. The initial amount will start showing up on the fiscal reports next month.

**Statistical Report:**

No questions about the statistics.

**Old Business:**

Discussion about the library moving to fine free after the initial 3 month trial period:

ALA put out a statement in 2019 favoring the elimination of fines.

56% of Oregon libraries are now fine free.

We are no longer in the mindset that people need to be punished for not returning a book on time. If a book is never returned, the person will be charged for the cost of the book 30 days after it was due.

\*The library saw 3 of these charges in January 2022 and 38 of them in January 2021. This is a big drop in staff time and negative contacts with patrons. (78% drop). People are bringing their books back at a higher rate during our 3 month fine free trial.

An article from the Register Guard about Springfield Public Library going fine free was shared with the Board. We would like to work with the New Era and do something similar to publicity.

Motion to go fine free was unanimously approved.

**New Business:**

No new business

**Further discussion:**

If the mask mandate is lifted March 31, then the library will look at staff's comfort level with returning to in person story times after that point.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 5:03pm