

Meeting Minutes

Library Board Regular Meeting

March 15, 2022 | 6:30 p.m.
Hamilton Library Program Room
3700 S. Arizona Ave., Chandler, AZ



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Board President Beth Brizel at 6:30p.m.

Roll Call

Commission Attendance

Board President Beth Brizel
Board member Bob Lowry
Board member Michael McElhany
Board member Maria Munoz
Board member Karla Palafox
Board member Arman Sidhu

Staff Attendance

Jo-el Miller, Administrative Librarian
Courtney Allen, Management Assistant

Scheduled and Unscheduled Public Appearances

None

Consent Agenda

1. January 18, 2022 Library Board Meeting Minutes
Motion was made by Board member Munoz to approve, Board member Lowry seconded.
Motion passed 6-0.

Briefing

1. Library Manager's Report
Jo-el Miller, Administrative Librarian / Hamilton Branch Manager is standing in for Library Manager Rachelle Kuzyk.
Karla Palafox inquired on the three vacancies at the Basha Library. Karla asked if there is already a person in place for the Instruction Specialist position. Jo-el responded stating there has been an offer made but it is not yet official. Basha should be fully staffed soon.

Beth Brizel inquired on the Story Walk at Desert Breeze park. Beth will go to the park to see where it begins and go through the walk. Jo-el informed the Board the Downtown Library is doing outside Storytimes using the Story Walk, the most recent with 42 attendees.

Beth Brizel had a question on the Collections and Statistics portion of the Manager's Report. Beth inquired on why the circulation numbers have gone down. Jo-el responded stating the numbers may be down due to the Sunset closure but staff are promoting the Bag of Books and rotating the displays, and with the Sun set reopening, the numbers should be up on the next Managers report. Jo-el informed the Board that Sunset Library is now officially re-open to the public.

Beth Brizel inquired on the PLA Conference that Library staff will attend at the end of March. Jo-el gave some insight as to what happens at Library conferences; Author Talks, break-out sessions, vendor fairs, and poster sessions. Library staff come back to report what they learned and implement their new ideas.

Arman Sidhu inquired if program attendance has recovered since we have gone back to in-person programming after the height of Covid. Are there still capacity limitations in place for in-person attendees? Is there a timeline for lifting capacity limitations? Jo-el responded that the numbers have not recovered to where they were pre-Covid. Storytimes at Sunset are still limited to 25. Hamilton moved into a larger space to not have to limit the numbers, so their storytimes are now getting up to 50 attendees. STEAM Club is still limited to 15. Jo-el reached out to Rachelle during the meeting to get an answer on the capacity limitations. Rachelle responded stating that the capacity limitation discussion is included on the agenda for the March 29 Leadership Team meeting.

Members Comments / Announcements

1. Bob Lowry gave the Board an update on the Friends of the Library (FOL). The FOL Board has a couple of vacant seats so please spread the word to anyone you may know that has a love of libraries and can meet once a month on Tuesdays at 1pm. The Board is currently accepting funding requests from Library staff, which are due in May. The Friends offer annual support to the library for program development, building improvements, subscription renewals, staff development, etc. There has been an initial discussion with the Makery Librarian regarding a Friendsmobile with a Mobile Makery that would allow computer usage, 3D printers, STEM activities, etc. It would be an upgraded version of a Bookmobile. The Friendsmobile would go into underserved neighborhoods and neighborhoods where residents may have limited access to get to a library branch or have access to the tools equipped on the vehicle. It may visit Boys and Girls Clubs and other places similar in nature. The Friends are also in the midst of a Sunset recovery promotion along with Fulton Homes and KUPD Radio. The promotion is to help Sunset recover from the problems resulting from the explosion. The promotion began last Saturday, March 12 at Chandler Fashion Center and will run through this Saturday, March 19 at Sunset library. They are collecting book and monetary donations for the Friends.

Beth Brizel informed the Board the upcoming the volunteer luncheon on Tuesday, April 5 at Serrano's. There will be lunch, service recognitions, and awards.

Calendar

1. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., at the Sunset Library, 4930 W. Ray Rd. Chandler, 85226.
2. The next Friends of the Library Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., in the Copper Conference Room 254 at the Downtown Library, 22 S. Delaware St.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Board member Munoz, Board member McElhany seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Rachelle Kuzyk, Board Liaison

Beth Brizel, Chairman