

City of Bellevue Library Advisory Board

Monthly Meeting Minutes: February 20, 2024

OPENING

The regular monthly meeting of the Library Advisory Board (the "Board") was called to order at 5:09 PM on February 20, 2024 by Gunjan Murarka, Vice President. The meeting was held in person at the Bellevue Regional Library with an option for hybrid attendance via Zoom.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Kim Anderson (remote) Sam Fetchero, Gunjan Murarka, Kat Pipkin, Sarah Rock (remote)

Board Members Absent: Jim Rusk, Imran Siddique

KCLS Representative(s): David Frappier, KCLS Regional Manager

Friends of the Bellevue Library: Susan Peterson

Newport Way Library Association: Kim Anderson

Guests: Councilmember Dave Hamilton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting minutes for January 2024 were reviewed. Gunjan had a clarification regarding the Lakeview Region. The minutes were amended to reflect that the Lakeview Region included the three KCLS libraries in Bellevue. The amended minutes were approved.

APPEARANCES AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item #1: Name Tags

The board discussed the name tag options that David Frappier shared. His will work with staff to mock up some options using the Makerspace laser cutter.

This led to a discussion of the Makerspace. Bellevue Regional Library hosts one of the two Makerspaces in the KCLS system. The other Makerspace is in Federal Way. This led to a discussion of the Memory Lab pilot project that will take place at Bellevue and Federal Way. Bellevue will be focusing on Japanese American memories and Federal Way will focus on the memories of recent immigrants to the U.S.

Kim Anderson joined at 5:20pm during this agenda item.

REPORTS

Report #1 – Bellevue Friends of Library

Susan Peterson gave an update. The busiest day for the shop is Saturday. They are contemplating adding a fourth shop day later this year. Donations are a bit lower, especially for fiction books. She said that this is the lowest she has ever seen fiction donations.

Report #2 – Newport Way Library Association

Kim Anderson gave an update. She shared that they are considering reducing the days for their book sales. They are planning a book sale in June focusing on childrens' titles. Their donations have been slower than they were prior to the pandemic. They used to process donations daily but have now reduced to processing donations once a week. Kat Pipkin asked if there was signage about donations. Susan Anderson shared that they had success after adding a "donations accepted" sign at Lake Hills Library.

Report #3 – Bellevue Library staff reports

KCLS Regional Manager David Frappier shared an update.

- Staff are working to prepare for the Memory lab pilot project.
- A new Librarian and Information Services Manager (LISM) was hired for the Bellevue region, Stephanie Zero. She will attend the next advisory board meeting.
- David is working with the City to coordinate the installation of the "Emerging Radiance" artwork. It should be installed in the late spring with a celebration in the summer.
- The roofline windows are being replaced with more energy efficient windows starting in April. The windows were at the end of their lifecycle. Due to public safety concerns, the library building will be closed to the public while the crane is in place at the beginning of this project. Staff are planning to offer curbside services during this closure. Ashwood Park will also be impacted as it will be the staging area for the work.
- Tax assistance is being provided at the libraries for free.
- The Makerspace is wrapping up their "make your own lightsaber" series. It was very popular.
- The Bellevue region had successful Lunar New Year celebrations at Lake Hills and Newport Way. Outside of the Bellevue region, the Newcastle Library also held a successful Lunar New Year celebration.
- Staff are preparing for the arrival of Heidi Daniel in March. She will meet with library advisory boards throughout the system. There might be an opportunity for several advisory boards to meet together to accomplish this goal.

Gunjan asked how the increased development in downtown Bellevue has impacted the Bellevue Library.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Hamilton shared that the Parks and Community Services Department will be evaluating Ashwood Park this year. He has also requested a shared email address or mailbox for the advisory board so that the community can contact the board. He shared that some boards share written reports with City Council. Gunjan shared that Jim took an agenda item to work on the report to Council at the last meeting. Sam suggested that we should have a standing business item for the report at future meetings. Gunjan asked if David could share example reports that other library advisory boards share with their respective cities.

There was a question about the start time for the March 19 advisory board meeting. The last time the board met at Lake Hills the start time was moved earlier to accommodate a program being offered at the branch. David Frappier will confirm the meeting time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM.

UPCOMING:

- March 19, 2024. Since the Talk Time program is scheduled for 6PM at the Lake Hills Library on this date, the time and location for the March meeting will be confirmed by David Frappier.

Minutes Submitted: By Sarah Rock

Approved at the March 19, 2024 Bellevue Library Advisory Board meeting.