



New Braunfels Public Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

New Braunfels Public Library
Monday, July 17, 2023

1. Call to Order

Amy Stone called the meeting to order at 5:29 p.m. on Monday, July 17, 2023.

2. Roll Call

a. Members Present

Amy Stone, Carol Bissett, Kristen Fain, Heather Simbro, Cheri Ortega, Connie Born, Deborah Wigginton

b. Others Present

Gretchen Pruett, library director; Natalee Corbett, library assistant director

3. Presentations

a. Westside Library Update

Gretchen Pruett reported new projected Grand Opening date of September 16, 2023 which coincides with the kick off of Hispanic Heritage month. Final completion is expected by the end of August with a week of soft opening and a Donor Preview Night.

4. Approval of Minutes

Carol Bissett made a motion to approve the May minutes as written, and Connie Born seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

5. Communications

a. Citizens

b. Library Advisory Board Members

Amy Stone requested update on book challenge issues.

6. Reports

a. Library Director

Gretchen Pruett reported no requests for reconsideration have been received. Natalee Corbett reported on City Council meeting at which community members spoke on library content concerns. Gretchen Pruett discussed HB 900, which effects public schools, not public libraries and how staff is working on preparing a defense of all titles commented on at City Council meeting. She also noted that the city has been very supportive of the library. All metrics, including circulation, visitors and number of programs, are up for the month of June over the previous year. The summer lunch program has been very impactful serving 25-40 kids per day at the Main Branch and 15 per day at Westside.

The mission of the New Braunfels Public Library is to provide the community with equal access to physical and virtual environments that support and encourage lifelong learning and enrichment.

www.newbraunfels.gov/library



b. New Braunfels Public Library Foundation

Book and Author Luncheon was a huge success. 400 guests attended and \$39,000 was raised. Date for Donor Preview Night at Westside is TBD. Planning for Big Give this fall is underway and they are looking for new board members. There is no update for the status of the bricks.

c. Friends of the Library

Meeting was held at the end of May. Library requested \$25,000. Bookstore is open and children's book sale was a big success at getting books in the hands of kids.

7. Discussion & Action

a. Review and possible action on Library Policy 2.30 – Loans

This is a review of the language for fees and to add a certification fee in item 2F. Kristen Fain moved to endorse the policy and Connie Born seconded. The board endorsed the policy.

b. Review and possible action on Library Policy 2.20 – Programs, Displays, and Exhibits

This revision is to review the purpose of programming tables in the lobby but adding verbiage to state tables in the library public areas not available for public use and remove verbiage and priority scheduling. Deborah Wigginton moved to endorse the policy, and Cheri Ortega seconded. The board endorsed the policy.

8. Items for Next Agenda (No Action May be Taken)

9. Adjournment

Amy Stone adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.