



# **New Braunfels Public Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes**

New Braunfels Public Library  
Tuesday, January 16, 2024

## **1. Call to Order**

Amy Stone called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

## **2. Roll Call**

**A. Members Present** Amy Stone, Dana Watson, Cheri Ortega, Carol Bissett, Adam Mauldin, Kristin Fain.

**B. Others Present**

Gretchen Pruett, library director

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

There were some corrections to the minutes. The agenda item for the book title "I have something to tell you", did not list the person that seconded the motion and that was Kristin Fain. Cheri made a motion to approve the November 28 minutes as written, and Carol seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved with the stated corrections.

## **4. Communications**

**A. Citizens:**

The following individuals spoke at this time: Kim Huntsman

## **5. Reports**

**A. Library Director** - Introduce Adam Mauldin as new Library Board Member as of November 2023. Circulation numbers are running ahead of 2023. Calendars have been revised so that there is a separate calendar for WS branch and Main. We have several vacancies we are filling. We have promoted from within a few positions. We are thinly staffed right now. We are starting to look for a new library software program to replace Apollo. It will be going through the City's bidding process. Our aggressive deadline is May, but we most likely will change in August. We are submitting a budget to the Friends of the Library and will finalize that in February. We are planning a summer reading kickoff at the main library and a wrap up at WS.

**B. New Braunfels Public Library Foundation-** There is no update from the Foundation. May 14, 2024, at the Civic center will be the Book and Author Luncheon.

**C. Friends of the Library:** They are in their budget discussions and did not send a representative at this time.

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](http://www.newbraunfels.gov/library)



## **6. Discussion & Action**

**A. Discuss and consider approval of the minutes from the meeting on November 28, 2023.** This has already been done.

**B. Discussion and possible action on an appeal of staff determination on Requests for Reconsideration of Library materials referred to the Reconsideration Subcommittee including the following titles: "Hello Cruel world: 101 alternatives to suicide for teens, freaks and other outlaws", and "The Awesome Autistic Guide for Trans Teens"**

Subcommittee: We met on Jan 12, Susan & Mark Peloquin submitted materials to the committee. All three subcommittee members have read the books and did independent research into the books being reconsidered. The subcommittee affirms the decision of the library staff in placing the items in the Youth Non-Fiction area.

### **Board Questions:**

The Board considered questions regarding the Subcommittee report.

### **Public Comment:**

The following individuals spoke against the recommendation of the subcommittee:  
Judy Rothell

Joeylynn Maceros

Richard Kelzheimer

Citizen (Name unidentified)

Motion to endorse the subcommittee: Dana Watson endorsed the recommendation from the subcommittee. Seconded by Cheri Ortega. Motion carries.

**C. Discussion and possible action on Library Policy 2.5 Collection Development.** Gretchen summarizes the changes to the policy.

**Board Questions:** No questions at this time.

### **Public comment:**

The following citizens spoke against the changes to the Collection Development policy:

Deborah Leimbach

Joeylyn Mesaros

Judy Rothell

Natasha Sanchez

Joeylyn Mesaros-

Susan Peloquin  
Deborah Leimbach  
Joeylynn Mesaros

**Board:** We have one proposed change to the agenda to clarify the meeting process and what happens if someone does not show up to a subcommittee meeting. Carol Bissett moved to table the collection development policy until the Feb meeting. Cheri Ortega seconds, and the motion carries.

- C. **Discussion and possible action for the election of officers.** Gretchen: election of Chair/President, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer  
Amy Stone will continue as Chair, Carol nominated, Cheri Seconded. Motion carries  
Carol Bissett as Vice Chair- Cheri nominated, Kristin Seconded. Motion carries  
Cheri as Secretary- Kristin nominated, Amy Seconded, Motion carries  
Kristin as Treasurer- Amy nominated, Dana seconded, Motion carries
- D. **Discussion and possible action on Library Advisory Board meeting schedule for 2024.** If the board would like to consider moving to a different day of the week so we are not opposed to the City Council meetings. Third Tuesday would work but Parks would be using council chambers so that would not be available to us. Fourth Tuesday we could reschedule the Fourth Tuesday in November if that is the only conflict. Kristen Fain made a motion to hold the Library Advisory Board meetings on the fourth Tuesday, Carol Bissett seconded, Motion carries. Feb 27 will be the next meeting.

## **7. Items for Next Agenda**

Collection Development possible revisions.

## **8. Adjournment**

Amy Stone adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.