



New Braunfels Public Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

New Braunfels Public Library – In-Person & Virtual Via Zoom
Monday, May 17, 2021

1. Call to Order

Library Advisory Board President Connie Born called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. on Monday, May 17, 2021.

2. Roll Call

a. Members Present

Connie Born, Carol Bissett, Kristen Fain, Deb Wigington, Ky Slone

b. Others Present

Ashleigh Chesser, New Braunfels Public Library Foundation president; Gretchen Pruett, library director

3. Presentations

a. COVID-19 Operations

Gretchen Pruett reports the library has been launching a phased approach to resuming operations. Last month quarantining materials stopped; currently the plan is to launch more services beginning June 1, including expanded hours. We'll be hiring two new clerks and two new aides to make the expanded hours possible. Any changes as a result of the CDC's revised guidelines regarding masks will come from the City level. At the fire chief's recommendation, the sneeze guards will remain as a good hygiene practice. Over the summer, the Youth Services staff will be hosting storytime at Fischer Park once a week. Looking ahead toward fall, that's when "normal" hours would resume, with the exception of scaling back the closing hour from 9 p.m. to 8 p.m.

b. Westside Library Branch Update

Gretchen Pruett shared official renderings of the new branch, emphasizing one of the themes will be the "Frida blue" of the lettering, tables, and pots. The inside of the library will also be "Frida blue" (meeting room chairs, shelving, etc.). Right now the plan is still to open June 2022.

4. Approval of Minutes

Kristen Fain motioned that the minutes of the April 19, 2021, meeting be accepted as written. Carol Bissett seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. Communications

a. Citizens

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.nbtexas.org/library



William, via Zoom: Do persons with disabilities have access to computers on site?
Answer: One computer is set up for persons with hearing or visual impairments.

b. Library Advisory Board Members

None

6. Reports

a. Friends of the Library

Ashleigh Chesser reports the Friends had a front porch sale the Friday and Saturday before Mother's Day and sold nearly \$900 worth of books that day. They are looking at August for a meeting in advance of the book sale, which is still scheduled for October. May 17 was also the first day the bookstore reopened.

b. New Braunfels Public Library Foundation

President Ashleigh Chesser reports the Foundation will be hosting a book sale on Saturday, May 29, to try to downsize the donated book collection. On Oct. 27, the Foundation will have an author come speak at the Brauntex.

c. Library Director

Library Director Gretchen Pruett reports that next month there will be a report from the Youth Services department about becoming a Family Place Library. The library staff are putting together budget requests, the major one being a rearrangement/minor redesign of the library's interior space—focusing on the circulation, adult, and teen spaces. A floorplan will be available for the June meeting. The City announced a capital program will be starting this fall with a bond committee being selected again. Of the two projects the library would have ready for the bond, the southeast branch would be the priority if it came to that. Finally, following a strategic planning meeting in early May with OrangeBoy, a customer management system, the large thematic takeaway was that NBPL plays an integral role in building community.

d. Treasurer

No report this month.

7. Discussion & Action

a. Review and Possible Action on Library Policy 2.30 – Loans

The recommended change is to drop the \$3.20 fee for interlibrary loans. As we're weeding more heavily and our core collection shrinks, we'll need to rely more on other libraries. ILLs will simply become a part of what we do. Kristen Fain moved to accept the change, and Deb Wigington seconded. The Board endorsed the policy as amended.

b. Review and Possible Action on Library Policy 2.10 – Reference Services

The recommended change includes a section added in regarding what kind of technical assistance library staff may and may not give. Carol Bissett moved to

accept the policy with the additions to the technical assistance section, and Kristen Fain seconded. The Board endorsed the policy as amended.

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

None.

9. Adjournment

President Connie Born adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.