



Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2022

Board members attending: Miranda Hyland, Elainie Conz, Mark Hudson, Niya Pitts, Nicole Neales

Others in attendance: Wright Adams (Director), Brittany Jones, Sarah Edmonds

Not in attendance: Rebecca Higgins, Michelle Gary, Doug Bridges, Robin Brackett

Miranda opens the meeting with acknowledgement of the June meeting notes. Miranda sent in the report of goals to the county as there were no objections from the board. There has been no feedback received from the county at this time. She noted a social media post about library noise. After brief discussion, which included the new policy allowing people to request a study room without reservations, all board members felt confident that the library staff have covered all bases in regards to noise. Miranda turns over to Wright.

Wright starts with the book mobile and says that the fall of next year is the hopeful timeline for the book mobile is next fall. He points out the Rolling for Reading brochure made by the Friends of the Library which gives a brief description of the book mobile and where people can send donations. This starts a discussion of how else we might be able to raise funds. Nicole requests a Facebook “blast” to help spread the word. Wright suggests that the Friends may need help with their social media and would be happy to put anyone in touch that wants to help. Several fundraising events were suggested including but not limited to: a walk-a-thon, a murder mystery, recurring donations via Facebook, selling tickets at the big Belk sale, change jars at local businesses/library (if there are no conflicts of interest), appeal to other county boards or local officials. A general request to think of fundraising campaigns to partner with the Friends with is made. Nicole requests a meeting between Friend and Advisory board members and was met with enthusiasm at that idea. Other assets that could be added if we surpass funding for the base model could include a handicap accessible ramp and upgraded tech such as laptops and wifi. The Star will be doing an article about the book mobile. Niya asks about if logistics have been worked out. Wright describes the loose structure of it such as probable part time staffing, rotating stop schedule and hopeful availability of 5 days a week.

Wright gives some statistics from the year that included 24 children's outreach programs with total attendance of 124 and 68,483 visitors at the main library and Spangler branch for the year. He spoke about a few hopeful programs for the fall, that the maker's space will resume hours in August, and that hopefully there will be some open hours in the Carolina room in October.

Sarah Edmonds took a new position as technical services manager. She touches on adult services. Summer reading has gained a lot more interest this year. There have been great 5 adult programs with 85 total attending. Maggie's embroidery workshop was highlighted. It was full with 11 people attending and there is a potential of a 6 week class with her in the future. Game night and painting class left for adult programs this summer. Taking August off to prepare for fall programs. Fall programs include Cleveland Reads Together in September and adult reading bingo challenge and more creative programs. Nicole offers to help host a beginners sewing workshop and some discussion follows on how to make that happen. Mark mentions his wife possibly helping with a care bear workshop. Nicole asks if "donation" workshops could be held. Wright says that the library cannot organize these events but that members could host them as long as a Friends member was present to collect the funds.

Sarah moves on to tech services. There has been an increase in program attendance as well as overall circulation. The library system's total circulation in the fiscal year of 2019-2020 was 89,661, for year 2020-2021 it increased to 96,244, 2021-2022 was 136,913. They are constantly assessing and updating the collection. The Spangler branch and outreach department were given additional funds to adjust gaps in their collections which has made a difference. They are reorganizing the North Carolina room and will have staff available to assist in that room in the fall.

Brittany Jones gives numbers for youth services. Total participants for story time in June was 47 and 21 for July so far. Camps aren't coming to story time and are unsure of why this is. They began working with a local homeschool co-op which is 30 students. Preschool program attendance was 157 in June and 154 in July to this point which has gone up from last year. School age has gone up significantly with 133 in June and 257 in July. Teen is 29 for June and 26 for July. 40 people attended the story time at the Earl Scruggs Center which has brought in new families for regular story time.

Friends of the Library representative wasn't present to speak.

Old business: We briefly touched on the Pride display and the county's support for it. No further old business.

New business: No new business to discuss.

Casual adjournment.

Our next meeting will be in September.

Respectfully submitted,

Elainie Konz