MINUTES
CITY OF DENTON
DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
Emily Fowler Central Library – November 13, 2023

After determining that a quorum was present, the Denton Public Library Board convened on Monday, November 13, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Emily Fowler Central Library at 502 Oakland St., Denton, Texas. Chair Ling Jeng, Vice-Chair Dallas Guill, and Members Jamie Taylor, Sandy Swan, Jean Greenlaw, and Eva Poole were in attendance.

PRESENT: Ling Jeng, Dallas Guill, Jamie Taylor, Sandy Swan, Jean Greenlaw, and Eva Poole
ABSENT:
STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer Bekker, Rachel Reeves, Cynthia Carter
GUESTS:

1. PRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. LB23-060 Consider approval of the minutes of September 11, 2023. Sandy Swan motioned, Jean Greenlaw seconded, all in favor.

B. LB23-061 Consider approval of the minutes of October 9, 2023.

The Board accepted and approved the minutes of the October 9, 2023, meeting with correction to page 2, removal of a word. Jean Greenlaw motioned, Sandy Swan seconded, all in favor.

C. LB23-058 The Board received an informational report regarding the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries.

- The Friends had $2,539.13 remaining in 2023 project funding. The library requested and was approved to use those remaining funds for the following:
  Keka Novales Author Event, Indigenous ACE Indigenous Culture event, Children's seating in the youth area at South Branch Library, KultureCity sensory kits and staff training to receive Sensory Inclusive™ Certification
- Library staff submitted a request for 2024, which will be voted on at the January 11, 2024, Executive Board meeting.
  - $2,000-Furniture for new conference and study rooms at Emily Fowler Central Library
  - $6,100-Hanging baffling for sound abatement in Teen Room at North Branch

- $2,000-Creation of a memory kits collection with sensory and enrichment activities for adults with cognitive issues or intellectual disabilities
- $2,500-Author events in 2024
- $7,500-Prize books for 2024 Summer Reading Challenge

D. LB23-059 The Board received an informational report regarding the Emily Fowler Library Foundation.

- Foundation Trustees met Friday, November 17, 2023 to discuss spring fundraising activities and plans.
- There have been no changes since the last meeting.

E. LB23-057 The Board received a report, held a discussion, and gave staff direction regarding a Customer Request for Reevaluation of Materials.

- A Request for Reevaluation of Materials form for the book *History Comics: Rosa Parks & Claudette Colvin: Civil Rights Heroes* by Tracey Baptiste was received on September 29, 2023. The Library Board was notified of the reevaluation request at the October 9, 2023, Library Board meeting. The Reevaluation of Materials Committee was notified of the request upon receipt and has completed its review and recommendation to the Director of Libraries.
- Library staff requested Library Board input regarding the complaint. The Board approved the recommendation by the Reevaluation of Materials Committee. Sandy Swan motioned, Eva Poole seconded. Five (5) approved, one (1) abstained.

F. LB23-063 The Board received a report, held a discussion, and considered approval of the following Denton Public Library Policy updates:

- *Reevaluation of Materials Policy* - The Board accepted and approved the revision with suggested changes by Eva Poole. Sandy Swan motioned, Dallas Guill seconded, all in favor.

G. LB23-062 The Board received a report, held a discussion, and give staff direction regarding:

2024 Library Strategic Plan Action Items - The Library Leadership Team has identified 2024 Library Strategic Plan Action Items. The projects identified support the established priorities and goals in the Strategic Plan.

The Board approved the proposed 2024 Library Strategic Plan Action Items. Eva Poole motioned, Sandy Swan seconded, all in favor.
Family Place Libraries™ Grant - Karli Pierce, Youth Services Librarian at North Branch Library, submitted a grant application for the TSLAC

Family Place Libraries™ Grant. The grant has been awarded to North Branch Library.

- *Grant description from the Texas State Library website*: The purpose of this grant is to create a welcoming, family-centered environment that empowers caregivers of young children as they become their child's first and continual teachers. This grant will provide funding for the equipment and training necessary for each library to:
    - Host workshops for children ages 0-3 and their caregivers.
    - Develop an interactive space for this age group to play and learn in the library.
    - Forge strong partnerships with organizations serving young children and their families.

  If chosen to participate in the 2024 cohort, new and expansion libraries can expect to have staff members attend a training in Round Rock, Texas, in May 2024. To offset the cost of travel, TSLAC will provide each attendee up to $700 in travel stipends. Moreover, following training, TSLAC will reimburse participating libraries up to $6,000 to purchase the supplies necessary to launch a successful Family Place Library location at their facility. After attending the Institute, participating Texas libraries are eligible for a grant of $6000 from State funds to assist with the development of their Family Place Libraries™ program.

2023 Bond Proposition-South Branch Library - The 2023 City of Denton Bond Election results include passage of seven of the eight propositions, including Proposition G: South Branch Library. Next steps include meeting with Capital Improvements to determine proposition priorities and timelines and securing the land.

Holiday Picture Book Collections - A new Holiday Picture Book Collection is being developed. Picture books with a subject about holidays will be shelved together. Holidays will be indicated with a spine label sticker above the call number. The collection is being developed to address patron requests for holiday books to be in one location in each branch. Signs with the associated stickers will be posted as the collections are moved.

Winter Reading Program - The Winter Reading program is set to run December 1-January 31. The program encourages reading for all ages. Participants who read three books will earn a digital badge and be entered to win a prize bag with books and book related gifts. One prize bag for each category will be given away: young children, elementary aged

children, teens, and adults. Participants can continue the program by reading additional winter-themed books or doing winter themed activities to earn additional digital badges.

Request for Reevaluation - A Request for Reevaluation of Materials form for the book *Let's Talk About It: The Teen's Guide to Sex. Relationships, and Being a Human* by Erika Moen and Matthew Nolan was received on October 23, 2023.

The Reevaluation of Materials Committee has been notified of the request and will read and review the item and make a recommendation to the Director of Libraries. Once the committee's recommendation has been received, it will be provided to the Library Board and an agenda item for Library Board discussion will be included in a future Library Board agenda.

3. CONCLUDING ITEMS

The Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

~~Ling Jeng, Chair~~
Eva Poole, Chair

Cynthia Carter, Administrative Assistant
City of Denton, TX

Minutes approved on: 01-08-2024