MINUTES
CITY OF DENTON
DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
North Branch Library – December 9, 2024

After determining that a quorum was present, the Denton Public Library Board convened on Monday, December 9, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the North Branch Library at 3020 N. Locust, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Eva Poole, Rebecca Fridley, Patricia Peters, Kathryn Pole, and Kerol Harrod
ABSENT:

Also present: Jennifer Bekker and Marcella Lunn

1. PRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. LB24-067 Consider approval of the minutes of October 14, 2024.

The Board accepted and approved minutes of the October 14, 2024 meeting. Kerol Harrod motioned, Rebecca Fridley seconded, all in favor.

B. LB24-064 The Board received an informational report regarding the Family Place Libraries™ designation at the North Branch Library.

- The North Branch Library has received Family Place Libraries™ designation. Karli Pierce, Youth Services Librarian at the North Branch Library, provided an overview of the initiative and the grant funding that provided the training, materials, and resources to create early learning play areas and support families in their child's development.

C. LB24-062 The Board received an informational report regarding the 2025 Library Advisory Board meeting schedule.

The Board accepted and approved 2025 meeting schedule. Kathryn Pole motioned, Patricia Peters seconded, all in favor.

D. LB24-063 The Board received an informational report regarding the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries.

- A proclamation for National Friends of the Library Week was read at the October 15, 2024 City Council meeting. The Friends

Executive Board met on Thursday, October 10, 2024. The November 16, 2024 Big Book Sale earned a record setting $5,002 in sales.

E. LB24-066 The Board received an informational report regarding the Emily Fowler Library Foundation.

There have been no changes since the last Library Board meeting. Library staff is coordinating with Foundation Trustees to schedule a meeting in the new year.

F. LB24-065 The Board received a report, held a discussion, and considered approval of the library's 2025 Spring Classes & Events.

- The proposed draft of 2025 Spring Classes and Events includes proposed programs for January-April, 2025. Kerol Harrod motioned, Kathryn Pole seconded, all in favor.

G. LB24-068 The Board received an information report and held a discussion regarding:

Emily Fowler Facility Projects - Emily Fowler Central Library study rooms are now open to the public. The facility project was completed in October. Furniture was delivered in late November and the rooms were opened for use on December 2, 2024.

Strategic Plan 2025 Action Items - Library staff are identifying 15-18 initiatives as the 2025 Annual Action Items as part of the library's Strategic Plan. 2024 Action Items that are one-year initiatives are being closed out in December. Multi-year initiatives will roll over and continue in 2025.

Staffing Updates - There have been several staffing changes due to retirements and new professional opportunities elsewhere. The full-time Library Specialist position at North Branch was recently filled. Two Youth Services Librarians begin the second week of December, with one at Emily Fowler Central Library and one at South Branch Library. A Teen Librarian position is now open at North Branch. A part-time Library Assistant position recently closed, and interviews are being scheduled in December.

Texas State Library and Archives Association Accreditation Standards - The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) is in the process of updating minimum accreditation criteria for public libraries. Some proposed changes that would affect Denton Public Library include creating a new Information Security and Privacy Policy and additional professional development training requirements for the Director of Libraries. Discussions and feedback sessions are currently taking place

and public libraries would have until 2026 to meet the updated requirements. More information can be found at https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/librarydevelopments/2024/11/05/proposed-changes-to-minimum-library-accreditation-criteria-2026-and-beyond/

Winter Reading Program - The annual Winter Reading Program kicked off December 1, 2024, and runs through January 31, 2025. The initiative promotes literacy, encourages the development of a love of reading, and supports lifelong learning.

Library Grants - Nanya Jackson, Youth Services Librarian at South Branch Library, has been awarded a $3,388 grant from the Denton Benefit League to develop and offer STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) related programs for teens. The grant will cover furniture and supplies for teen robotics, engineering and art programs in the Spring and Summer of 2025.

Haley Phillips, Outreach Librarian, is planning to apply for a $3,000 Light the Way grant to provide funding for an initiative to support early literacy. The initiative would create Story Totes with complete Story Time supplies, books, and program instructions to local home daycares. The initiative also includes an aspect of early literacy education to home daycare providers to provide them with best practices for reading activities and how to incorporate reading with children into their daily schedules.

3. CONCLUDING ITEMS

The Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Eva Poole, Chair

Cynthia Carter, Administrative Assistant
City of Denton, TX

Minutes approved on: 1/13/25