

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 15, 2022 - 2:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Bill Thompson, Member
Wendy Holmes Boring, Member
Kathleen Kennedy, Member

EXCUSED: Judy Cohan, Chair

STAFF PRESENT: Betcinda Kettells, Library Director
Amber LaRowe, City Clerk
Ariana Wilson, Admin. Assistant – Clerk’s Office

With no Chair or Vice Chair being present, Member Thompson was asked to preside.

Member Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Member Holmes moved and Member Kennedy seconded the approval of the agenda as presented with no changes; the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

2. Audience Comments –None

3. Approval of Minutes

a. 9/15/22

Member Holmes moved and Member Kennedy seconded the approval of the 9/15/22 minutes; the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

4. Action Items

a. Approval of the 2023 Meeting Schedule

City Clerk LaRowe announced that going forward the Library Advisory Committee will be meeting bi-annually as opposed to quarterly.

Member Kennedy moved and Member Holmes seconded the approval of the 2023 Meeting Schedule as presented with no changes; the motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

5. Discussion Items

a. Programming

Ms. Kettells thanked Steve Traiman for his ten years of service to the Library Advisory Committee. He will continue to be on the Friends of the Library Board.

She also welcomed new board member Karen Marriott who will serve on this Committee and will attend the following meeting.

Ms. Kettells reviewed some upcoming programs which include:

- Interactive family movies each month
- Story and steam program
- Homeschool Social
- Adult book club
- Middle school graphic novel book club
- Musical performances – Each Wednesday in February and one Wednesday in March
- Lecture programs – Topics of healthy nutrition, water pollution, behind-the-scenes at the library, and protecting your credit

Ms. Kettells informed the Committee of their new “Library of Things” where they loan out an assortment of items which include, puzzles, movie marathon boxes, book kits for kids, and their newest pickleball kit. The kit includes a backpack with a pickleball for beginners book, a list of indoor and outdoor courts in St. Pete Beach, two indoor and two outdoor balls, and two pickleball paddles.

b. New technologies

Ms. Kettells reviewed some new technology at the library which includes:

- People counters – They now have two months of data that can be used to target people for future programs
- A new barcode scanner – Allows staff to create new Library cards much faster and more accurately.
- In the process of purchasing a new learning and games projector for children
- A new chat button feature which has been installed on the library page which will improve customer service and reduce the number of phone calls received

Board members discussed past programs and statistics regarding the people counters.

6. Adjournment - Next meeting 3/30/2023

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

These minutes were approved at the March 30, 2023 Library Advisory Committee meeting.