

MINUTES

On August 8, 2022, the AMARILLO LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD met at 4:00 p.m. for a regular meeting at the East Branch Library, 2232 27th, Amarillo, Texas.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Shawn Read, Chair	YES	12	11
Howard Rodriguez-Mori, Vice-Chair	YES	7	7
Lillian C Withrow	YES	4	4
John Esler	YES	2	2
Christy Gagnon	YES	2	2

Also in attendance:

<u>Amanda Barrera</u>	DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES, CITY OF AMARILLO
<u>Jacob Workman</u>	EAST BRANCH LIBRARIAN, CITY OF AMARILLO
<u>Silvia Shaver</u>	LIBRARY SECRETARY, CITY OF AMARILLO

1. Call to Order and Introductions. Mr. Shawn Read, Chair, established a quorum and called the regular meeting of the AMARILLO LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD to order at 4:04 p.m.
2. Public forum. None
3. Minutes. Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on JUNE 13, 2022. Motion was made by Dr. Howard Rodriguez-Mori, seconded by Ms. Lillian Withrow, and unanimously carried to approve such minutes as written.
4. Presentation and Discussion by the Director of Library Services on Current Departmental Issues and Activities.

- A. Friends of the Library: Ms. Amanda Barrera reported that the Friends have a preliminary estimate of around 3,200 to 3,300 people attending AMA-CON. Lil Withrow, John Esler, and Christy Gagnon shared their experience as volunteers at AMA-CON.

The Friends will host their first in-person book sale since 2019. The Friends-only sale will take place on the evening of September 9, and the public will be able to shop the sale September 10-11.

Ms. Barrera announced that Layton Lutz has raised all his money on his Eagle Scout project “Installation of the StoryWalk at the Medi Park”. The panels have been ordered, and they will arrive the last week of August. Mr. Lutz is working with the Parks Superintendent to set up an installation date.

The Friends met on Thursday, August 4th and voted to commit funding to the creation of a colorful mural on the exterior of the Downtown Library. Ms. Barrera is in the process of getting the approval by the City Manager and the Beautification and Public Arts Advisory Board. The cost usually starts around \$5,000.00, depending on the complexity and the size of the mural.

Mr. Read suggested that the schools in the city limits of Amarillo may have a “Design the Mural Contest”. Ms. Barrera will talk to Kathryn Massey, Beautification and Public Arts Coordinator, to see if the contest can be incorporated into the process.

- B. Programming and events at all APL locations: Amarillo Reads in the Summer was a great success this year, with over 3,300 patrons of all ages registered to participate; that is about 15% increase over last year. We had 43 programs that we held for the public, with a total of 1,135 people attending. While the ability to log the minutes that you read ended on July 31, you are still able to come and collect prizes through August 31.

We also had a successful summer for our English as a Second Language class. The registration for the fall semester at the Downtown Library will take place on September 6th.

- C. Case Manager @ Downtown Library: More public libraries are hiring social workers. In 2009 San Francisco became the first city to embed a social worker with the library staff and since that time, 50 other cities added social workers as well to help people experiencing homelessness, mental health issues, and poverty. The Community Development Department and the Library will combine two part-time positions to hire a Case Manager. This person will be at Downtown Library in the mornings, and then at the Community Development Department in the afternoons.
- D. East Branch Activities: Mr. Jacob Workman talked about current and upcoming programs at East Branch. Elise Sutton and Caroline Keenan-Kingston are developing "The Anime Club" for teens and young adults.

5. Discuss Items for Future Agendas. None.

Dr. Howard Rodriguez-Mori announced that the Veterinary Medicine Class of 2026 will start tomorrow, with 88 new students enrolled.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the City Library Department.



Shawn Read

ATTEST:



Amanda Barrera, Director of Library Services