

**MINUTES OF THE
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD Monday, April 17, 2023 at 5:30 PM
at the Copper Queen Library located at 6 Main Street, Bisbee, AZ 85603**

ROLL CALL: The Meeting was called to order by Cinda Combs at 5:33 PM
BOARD MEMBERS

CINDA COMBS (CHAIR)
DONNA WIRTEL
MARY ANN HARLAN
MICHAEL WILSON - EXCUSED
WILL GRONLUND
ANGELIKA JOHNSON
NANCY SHAUL - ABSENT

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: LESLIE JOHNS, WARD 1
CITY STAFF LIAISON: JASON MACOVIAK - LIBRARY MANAGER

THE FOLLOWING WAS DISCUSSED, CONSIDERED, AND/OR DECIDED UPON AT THIS MEETING.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Minutes from the January 2023 Meeting could not be approved because Mr. Macoviak did not send them out to the board members. He stated that he would send the January 2023 minutes via email when he sends the current meeting minutes.

2. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS.

There was no correspondence or communications.

3. CALL TO PUBLIC.

There was no call to the public.

OLD BUSINESS.

4. ELIMINATING ALL FINES

Mr. Macoviak updated the Board on the Copper Queen Library's goal of eliminating overdue library fines. He noted that the Bisbee City Council voted in February to give the CQL six months to run a trial period of having no overdue fines. He also stated that he would have to return to City Council after the six-month trial period to report on community feedback. He asked if board members would be willing to speak at call to the public in support of making the elimination of overdue fines permanent. Everybody said they'd be willing to speak on behalf of the Library Advisory Board if they were in town when the meeting takes place. Mr. Macoviak said the meeting would be set for late July/early August. Mr. Macoviak noted that the community feedback he has collected has been positive, but that they needed more feedback to present to the City Council. He also noted that it was difficult to demonstrate if patrons have returned to the library because of the program, and how many long-overdue library materials had been returned back to the library since there is currently no fiscal penalty set on overdue materials. He stated that he would connect with the Cochise County Library's Systems Librarian to see if he could find any statistics to support the program.

NEW BUSINESS.

5. STATE OF THE LIBRARY REPORT FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

STATISTICS : Mr. Macoviak presented statistics for the third quarter of the 2022-2023 fiscal year (January - March 2023). He noted that circulation was increasing back to pre-pandemic levels. Ms. Johnson noted that the statistics did not include e-content circulation. Mr. Macoviak noted he only receives e-content statistics from the Cochise County Library annually, but does know that e-content circulation is also on the rise, as more patrons are using the libby app to download eBooks and eAudiobooks. Ms. Harlan commented on the amount of interlibrary loans that the CQL lent out over the three-month period. Mr. Macoviak said that the CQL has seen a major increase in the amount of materials they lend out to the other Cochise County Libraries, and noted that they were inching closer to the amount that the Sierra Vista Library lends out. Ms. Johnson noted that this was because of the great collection the CQL holds. The Board noted that amount of new users

added and wondered if this had anything to do with the Fine Free Initiative. Mr. Macoviak noted that this could be a possibility, but that it was hard to prove.

STAFFING : Mr. Macoviak noted that the CQL had hired Gretchen Hill as their Early Literacy Coordinator at the Annex. He stated that Ms. Hill was already making great progress in promoting early literacy and hosting the CQL's weekly early literacy programs, which include 2 Story Times, 1 STEAM program, and Preschool Movement Class. He noted that Ms. Hill also facilitates the Youth FreeWrite Program and Open Art Studio, which are both held twice a month. He stated that Ms. Hill brings an expertise in early childhood education to the position, which will help with the CQL's mission of promoting early literacy.

GRANTS : Mr. Macoviak gave an update on some of the grants the Library has been working on.

ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION : Mr. Macoviak announced that the Copper Queen Library received a \$24,000 grant from the Arizona Community Foundation for continued work at the CQ Library Annex Patio. He explained that some of the funds would be used to fix gutter issues and to rebuild the sand pit area, as well as create a water feature, outdoor kitchen, and mural. Other funds will be used to continue and expand programs at the Annex.

FUTURE GRANTS : Mr. Macoviak noted that he was interested in finding a grant to help with the physical rehabilitation of the Copper Queen Library building. He noted that they still had approximately \$45,000 from a Freeport Grant to address some of the issues on the library's two balconies. He said that he was currently working with the City of Bisbee Public Works Department to secure a structural engineer to examine the issues and present an action plan to address the issues. He also noted that the City of Bisbee just finished applying another layer of elastic roof coating to the library's roof. He noted that the Public Works Dept. was doing a great job of maintaining the repairs they have made over the last few years.

PROGRAMMING : Mr. Macoviak discussed current and upcoming programming at the CQL and CQ Library Annex. He mentioned that library staff was preparing for this year's summer reading program, All Together Now. He stated that they would work with the theme of community this summer and create programs to teach kindness, empathy and building community. He noted that Ms. Williams attended the Young Adult Summit which was sponsored by the Arizona State Library and AZLA (Arizona Library Association) and that she would be using what she learned to develop young adult programming for the CQL. Ms. Harlan commended the library for focusing on teen patrons, and noted that this is usually the hardest demographic for libraries to reach. Mr. Macoviak noted that the CQL had an active teen team before COVID and that the library was interested in creating a new teen team, since most of the old group had graduated from high school. Ms. Harlan noted that she would be available to meet with library staff to help brainstorm ideas.

OTHER : There was some discussion among the Board about current book bans that are occurring around the country. Ms. Harlan updated the Board about the specifics of some of those bans and how they are affecting both school and public libraries.

6. **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.** It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday, July 17, 2023 at 5:30 PM at the Copper Queen Library.
7. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 PM