

**MINUTES OF THE  
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
HELD Monday, July 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 5:34 PM  
**BOARD MEMBERS**

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

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON:** LESLIE JOHNS, WARD 1 - EXCUSED  
**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 23, 2023 and April 17, 2023 meetings were approved.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS.**

Mr. Macoviak communicated that the upcoming Altered Books Silent Auction fundraiser by the Friends of the Copper Queen Library was scheduled for Saturday, August 26, 2023 at Central School.

**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 he would return to the Bisbee City Council in August to update the Council on the last six months, which was approved by the Council as a trial period. He stated that he had received a letter of support from the Cochise County Librarian and that he talked with the Arizona State Librarian, who was unable to provide a letter of support due to the fiscal nature of the initiative. Mr. Macoviak asked if the Board would also be present at the Council Meeting, and if Board Members could speak briefly on the subject at the Meeting. Ms. Wirtel stated that she would be willing to speak on behalf of the Library Advisory Board. Mr. Macoviak noted that Ms. Harlan, who was excused from the Meeting, had already agreed to speak at the upcoming Meeting. Ms. Wirtel and Ms. Johnson stated that it would be beneficial if we had some sort of testimonials that could be shared at the Meeting. Ms. Wirtel also noted that the Library Manager could share some statistics from the past year which would show increased library use as a possible correlation to the fine free period. Mr. Macoviak stated that he would let the Board know when the Meeting date has been set.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

**5. STATE OF THE LIBRARY REPORT FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER**

**STATISTICS :** Mr. Macoviak presented statistics for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year. He noted that circulation was still on the rise and would soon meet pre-pandemic levels. The Library Manager also presented a Return on Investment worksheet that showed a 606% Return on Investment for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2023. Mr. Macoviak explained that the worksheet is used by libraries around the country to show how much someone would pay out-of-pocket if the library didn't exist, or if these services and resources weren't available at no cost. Mr. Macoviak noted that he used last year's e-content statistics since the 2022-2023 statistic were not yet available.

**STAFFING :** Mr. Macoviak noted that the Library had hired three teen library interns for the summer. He explained that the City of Bisbee used the unused pool lifeguard funds to hire teens to work in different departments of the City, including Public Works, Parks and Recreation, City Hall, Camp Naco and the Copper Queen Library. He gave an update on the different projects the teens

were working on, which include working the front desk, creating marketing posters, recording stories for Dial-A-Story, helping with Preschool Story Times, learning cataloging and archiving, helping with the Summer Reading Program and creating their own teen programming. Mr. Macoviak stated that the City was interested in continuing this program next year, to give youth in the Bisbee Community opportunities to learn new skills and see how governments operate. Mr. Macoviak reported no other staff changes.

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

ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION : Mr. Macoviak gave an update on the Arizona Community Foundation's grant for the Annex Patio. He stated that a new mural was painted on the patio's stage wall by Bill Mead.

ARTEMIZIA : Mr. Macoviak presented a new collaboration with the Artemizia Foundation which is will allow the Copper Queen Library to participate in Inside Out, a global participatory art project initiated by the French photographer JR. He explained that the Library's project would be called Freedom to Read, and would invite community youth to participate in the project by taking their portrait holding their favorite books, which will highlight early literacy and the power that a love of reading holds for all who read unhindered. He explained that the Library would take the photographs and that Artemizia would pay for the printing. He also noted that the prints would then be wheat-pasted under the underpass on Bisbee Road. He explained that this was a temporary art installation, and that the project also had the support of Freeport McMoran and the City of Bisbee. He noted that the Library had three photo sessions planned for this week, and that they would be working with the Boys and Girls Club and the Bisbee Unified School District with this project.

FUTURE GRANTS : Mr. Macoviak noted that Library Staff was interested in applying for grants to build a recording studio in the Main Library that could be used for patrons wanting to record their oral histories, podcasts and more. He explained that this idea is taking hold in many libraries across the country and that this could add another resource for the Bisbee Community. Mr. Macoviak also discussed a possible partnership with local historian Charles Bethea to write a book on the history of the Copper Queen Library. Mr. Wilson noted that he could help research the Library at the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum where he volunteers.

PROGRAMMING : Mr. Macoviak updated the Board on the Library's Summer Reading Program which was being facilitated by Program Coordinator Alison Williams and Early Literacy Coordinator Gretchen Hill. He noted that the program has been very successful, with nearly 30 kids attending each week. He also stated that the Bisbee Science Lab Staff was also working with the program. He noted that Library Staff would regroup after the Summer Reading Program ends to come up with new programming for the Fall and Winter.

OTHER : There were no other updates.

6. **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.** It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday, 16, 2023 at 5:30 PM at the Copper Queen Library.
7. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM