

**MINUTES OF THE
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD Monday, October 16, 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
WILL GRONLUND - EXCUSED
ANGELIKA JOHNSON
NANCY SHAUL - ABSENT

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: LESLIE JOHNS, WARD 1 - ABSENT
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 July 17, 2023 meetings were approved.

2. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS.

None

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 present to the Bisbee City Council on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 7 PM. He stated that he prepared a short powerpoint presentation that includes testimonials in support of going Fine Free, as well as some statistics to show how going fine free has not increased overdue materials. He also stated that he would also include information on other barriers the library is working to remove. Ms. Wirtel stated that should would prepare a short speech in support of the endeavor. Mr. Macoviak invited the other members of the Library Advisory Board to attend to show support, if they were available to do so.

NEW BUSINESS.

5. STATE OF THE LIBRARY REPORT FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

STATISTICS : Mr. Macoviak presented statistics for the first quarter of the 2023-24 Fiscal Year. He noted that circulation was down a bit from a year ago and that September had been particularly slow, though noted that circulation in October seemed back to normal. Ms. Johnson noted that that the total numbers of Items Added didn't match the sum of the items listed on the poster and that the number of Tools checked out from the Tool Lending Library seemed impressively high. Mr. Macoviak noted that he didn't calculate these two items correctly and would make the corrections. Ms. Johnson also noted the high number of participants for library programs. Mr. Macoviak explained that his number also includes larger events, including the Annex's Open Houses and visits to the Bisbee Saturday Market. The Board also asked about the Culture Passes check out over the last quarter. Mr. Macoviak noted that he expected these numbers to rise, as the weather cools down in Tucson and Phoenix. There was also some discussion about the number of card holders. Mr. Macoviak stated that it was the Library's goal to have over 5000 registered patrons, to match the population of Bisbee. Ms. Johnson mentioned the Library's Hotspot Program and asked if it was possible to include information about the federal program that offers discounts for internet. Mr. Macoviak and the Board agreed that this would be a great idea to include this information with the hotspots when they are checked out. Ms. Harlan asked what works best for the Library in terms of notifying the patrons about new programs and services available to them. Mr. Macoviak noted that the eMail Newsletter worked really well, in terms of disseminating information.

STAFFING : Mr. Macoviak updated the Board on recent staff professional developments: The Library Manager attended the Association of Rural and Small Libraries in Wichita, Kansas in September. He presented the Copper Queen Library's National Medal Story with the Institute of Museum and Library Services out of Washington D.C. He also noted that The Copper Queen Library was nominated again this year (by U.S. Representative Raul Grijalva) and that staff filed the necessary paperwork to complete the nomination process. He noted that the finalists would be named in the Spring of 2024. He also noted that the Library Services Coordinator would be attending the Arizona Library Association's Conference from October 25-27 in Phoenix, Arizona, and that Early Literacy Coordinator attended an Arizona State Library sponsored workshop, *Story Time Is Your Time to Shine*, which was designed to engage and empower youth librarians. Mr. Macoviak noted that these opportunities were supported in part by scholarships from the Arizona State Library. Ms. Wirtel asked what some of the highlights were from the ARSL Conference. Mr. Macoviak stated that the session with the Office of Intellectual Freedom was very interesting, as well as the session on Artificial Intelligence. There was some discussion on both of these topics.

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

TOUGH TOPICS : \$4000 - University of Arizona Rural Health

Mr. Macoviak discussed a recent grant from the University of Arizona Rural Health for health and wellness initiatives in the Bisbee Community. He explained that a portion of the grant was used to purchase books on "Tough Topics", or difficult or potentially controversial topics, including (but not limited to) : Abortion, Alcohol Abuse, Anxiety, Cutting/Self Harm, Depression, Gender Identity, Domestic Violence, Rape & Sexual Assault, Sexual Orientation, & Substance Abuse. He then explained that the rest of the grant would be used to sponsor this winter's Health & Wellness Caring Kits for Bisbee's at-risk & homeless community, which include winter gloves, hat & scarf, personal health & hygiene products, list of local resources, journal & pen. He stated he also want to expand the Library of Things outdoor recreational equipment to include Birding Backpacks (binoculars, bird guides, local birding sites, etc.) and more sports equipment to use in Bisbee's City Parks, etc. He noted that he would be meeting with the University of Arizona's Cooperative Extension to partner on the Birding Backpacks. Ms. Johnson suggested the library include a bookmark in the Tough Topics books with important resources and phone numbers on it so that patrons are aware of local resources they may find helpful. The Board agreed this was a great idea and Mr. Macoviak noted that he would do this.

PROGRAMMING : Mr. Macoviak updated the Board on the Library's programming efforts. He discussed the Inside Out Photo Mural that was installed earlier in the day by Library Staff, Artemizia Staff, and Rotary Members. He explained that over the summer, the Copper Queen Library invited the youth of the community to participate in this project by taking their portrait holding their favorite books. The project celebrates our freedom to read and highlights early literacy, and the power that a love of reading imbues in all who read unhindered. He noted that the temporary art installation was wheat-pasted along Freeport McMoRan's wall by the underpass along Bisbee Road as you approach the traffic circle. Mr. Macoviak provided more information about the Inside Out Project : The Inside Out Project is a platform that helps communities around the world to stand up for what they believe in and spark global change locally. Group Leaders create their Actions by displaying large-scale black and white portraits of members from their community in public spaces. Together, they create a work of public art! Over the past decade, more than 500,000 people spanning across 152 countries and territories have participated in the Inside Out Project. Thanks to participants' donations, the project has reached all the continents, with over 2,500 actions created. Actions have revolved around a range of topics: diversity, community, feminism, racism, climate change, education, children's rights, and art are just a few of them. Posters are displayed in outdoor spaces that are visible to the public. These Group Action installations are documented and shared online.

Mr. Macoviak discussed the Library's efforts to create a Book B.R.A.T. for the upcoming B.R.A.T.S. Parade which will take place on Saturday, October 28, 2023 @ 4 PM, Main Street. He noted that the efforts were being led by CQL's Open Art Studio and the CQL's Early Literacy Coordinator, who will ride the book down Main Street dressed like a book worm.

Mr. Macoviak updated on the Library's Banned Books Week Celebration. There was some discussion on this year's Top Ten Banned or Challenged Books List, which was compiled by the American Library Association and the Office for Intellectual Freedom.

OTHER : Mr. Macoviak updated the Board on other library news.

Bill Mead Mural - Mr. Macoviak explained that funds from the Laurie Kintzelle Art Fund were used to create a mural in the elevator entrance, located on the first floor, by the bookstore. Like the pages of a children's book, the mural is meant to inspire creativity and tell its own story, capturing the hearts and minds of everyone that enters the library that way.

Library Building - The Library Manager is working to have downspout gutters installed on the back of the building. He has also met with structural engineers to discuss exterior cracking on the balcony decks and arches. The installation of the library's new HVAC system has been delayed since July. No word on when work will commence.

New copper library card to celebrate the CQ Library Annex's five-year anniversary! Alison is also designing a special library card for children.

Vestaboard - Smart message display board which will greet patrons with rotating literary quotes, library programs and more. Purchased with a grant from Freeport McMoRan.

Future Projects - The History of the Copper Queen Library book project - led by local historian Charles Bethea. Interactive art station at the Annex for Mary Jane Banks' Memorial - working with local artist Ed Rosko. AV Recording Studio and Digi Lab - potential LSTA Grant with the Arizona State Library

Patrons can reserve the space to record their own podcasts, oral histories, etc.

Patrons can also reserve the space to create videos using our green screen, as well to facilitate zoom calls, etc. Equipment would also be available for patrons to scan old photos, as well as convert VHS to digital files.

6. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.

7. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM