

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH
Library Commission
September 15, 2021
4:03 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Library Commission was held Wednesday September 15, 2021, in the Auditorium, Noel Wien Library, 1215 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, Alaska.

ROLL CALL

There were present appearing telephonically and in person:

Mary Matthews	Karen Fox
Nicole Eiseman	Jeff Jacobson
Charles Simmons	Maida Buckley
Robert Hannon, Vice-Chairperson	Rex Nutter, Chairperson

Comprising a quorum of the Commission, and

Sharon Wittenkeller, Administrative Assistant III, Clerk
Melissa Harter, Library Director
Renee Van Nort, Administration Manager
Kate Rose, Young Adult Librarian

Absent & Excused

Elyse Guttenberg

MESSAGES

1.a. Citizen's Comments on agenda items not scheduled for public hearing.

NONE

1.b. Citizen's Comments on items other than those appearing on the agenda.

NONE

2. Disclosure & Statement of Conflict of Interest

NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

JACOBSON,
Seconded by FOX

moved to approve the agenda and consent
agenda as read.

VOTE ON MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA AS READ.

Yeses: Matthews, Simmons, Eiseman, Fox,
Jacobson, Buckley, Hannon, Nutter

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED 8 Yeses, 0 Noes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. *Library Commission meeting minutes of August 18, 2021.

Without objection this measure was read by title and approved under the consent agenda.

REPORTS

1. Melissa Harter, Library Director, Report

Melissa Harter, Library Director, provided a presentation and update on past and current events at the Noel Wien Library and North Pole Library Branch. The report included information on August attendance numbers at both libraries, the number of library card signups, evening library traffic, the Kids Literacy Farmers Market event, library card signup incentives, current fall programming, Fairbanks Library Foundation Fair Booth, library displays, the North Pole fish mystery, employee staffing and vacancies, staff training, fundraising and current grant proposals.

Ms. Harter introduced Kate Rose, Young Adult Librarian, to share with the Commission information on the young adult programming and services available.

Ms. Rose explained her primary focus on programming and services for middle school and high school age patrons, with an overarching goal of building bridges between the children services into her middle school/high school age programming through the tween years.

REPORTS – Continued

Ms. Rose provided information on current programming with teens and her main responsibility of connecting young people with the resources that they need, providing a space and platform for them to advocate for themselves and their own needs. Her main avenue to accomplish this is through programming, outreach and library collections. Programming includes the make and take program and library grab bags. She also spends a large portion of her time on outreach to local organizations where teens frequent and where specific needs have been identified. She visits classrooms to provide information about the program, provides collection development for young adult fiction and non-fiction books, graphic novels for the entire library while legitimizing all types of reading and notes teens are not only current library users, they are future users, future donors, and future policy makers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Review and Approval of Fairbanks North Star Borough Libraries Patron Conduct Policy.

Melissa Harter, Library Director, explained she met with Renee Van Nort, Library Administration Manager, and David Wright, Library Communication Services Manager, regarding the comments and concerns from the Commission's review of the policies at the last meeting. Ms. Harter provided Commissioners with an updated draft version of the internet use policy which included suggestions from the prior meeting. Staff and Commissioners reviewed the draft policies while focusing on borough code.

Chair Nutter requested Ms. Harter provide clean draft versions of both the patron conduct policy and internet use policy without markups including the recommended changes for the Commission to review at and prior to their next meeting on October 20, 2021.

EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES

Vice-Chair Hannon is excused from the October 20, 2021 meeting. Chair Nutter may be absent at the October 20, 2021 meeting.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Harter addressed questions that were raised at the prior meeting including statics on how many requests there are to unblock a site on a library computer, child view, time of warning lights prior to closing, protocols and protections for threats to staff.

Commissioner Eiseman provided a reminder of the Municipal Election on October 5, 2021 and the early voting option.

COMMUNICATIONS – Continued

Commissioner Jacobson provided information on the last Public Works vehicle auction of the season and was pleased to be participating in the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Library Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.