



94341 Third Street, Gold Beach, OR 97444; 541-247-7246

CURRY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2021 at 4:00 pm

Curry Public Library

Minutes by Jeremy Skinner

1. Call to Order @ 4:00 pm

- In attendance: Tim Scullen (Lib. Board), Jeremy Skinner (Lib. Director), Sandy Grummon (Lib. Board), Alaina Pepin via Zoom (Lib. Board), Jerry Herbage (Lib. Board), Jim Boyle (FOL President), Bryan Grummon (public), Rebecca Marcus (Lib. Staff), and Jordan Popoff (Lib. Staff).
- Absent: John Harper (Lib. Board)

2. Library Mission Statement – read by Tim Scullen

3. Directors Report (Skinner)

- Skinner gave a brief financial and statistical report

4. Friends of the Library Report (Jim Boyle)

- The FOL are canceling the Labor Day book sale.

5. Discussion of COVID-19 and Library Safety Protocols

- Skinner shared recent COVID-19 stats for Curry County and new guidance from the state library that indicate that the library should re-consider its in-person services. The library board decided that: 1) masks will be required for anyone inside the facility over the age 5; 2) open hours will continue as schedule; 3) in-person programs that have been already scheduled will be shifted outdoors; 4) new programs will only be scheduled if they are virtual or outdoors; 5) if groups agree to mask and distance protocols, the conference room can be used by groups of up to 5 people and the meeting hall can be used by groups of up to 20. Skinner agreed to continue to monitor public health to determine if further changes need to be made.

6. Staffing Changes

- Skinner provided the following statement about staffing issues.
- Volunteers: For a variety of reasons including COVID-19 and other individual needs, the library's front desk volunteer base has dwindled. Over the next month, the library will begin actively recruiting new volunteers with hopes of being able to fill 3 to 4 regular volunteer shifts each week.
- Library Staff: The library is working on a staff schedule for the fall, knowing that a number of our staff have planned absences. In addition to establishing a long-term schedule (usually we work month-to-month), we will advertise one part-time on-call position.
- ASCEND: This week, state guidelines for schools and after school programs shifted significantly with a vaccine mandate for all employees and a masking mandate for all employees and students. These mandates will likely have a significant impact on the ability of ASCEND to operate at the library this fall. Will children participate under a mask mandate? Will staff enforce a mask mandate? Will staff comply with the vaccine mandate? Will the school be able to provide transportation? I know that some of our staff are considering ceasing their work with ASCEND. What will our staff look like after all of these changes take place? Next week, I plan to meet with the ASCEND staff to better assess how they would like to proceed. Additionally, I have been in contact with the Oregon

Department of Education, and they will be providing us with guidance over the next two weeks. Once I know more, I will provide the library board with information on our options for suspending or continuing the ASCEND program at our next meeting.

7. Other Business if Needed

-Umpqua Bank: Skinner noted that the library has had some issues with Umpqua's new online banking system, and as a result, July payroll posted late. Skinner is looking into ways to improve Umpqua customer support.

-Board vacancy: Skinner announced John Harper's written resignation from the library board of directors in the wake of health and other family needs. Skinner proposed a board vacancy application. The board agreed to posting the application immediately, and considering filling the vacancy at the September board meeting.

8. Adjournment @ 5:07