

LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES
Regular Meeting
September 19, 2023

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Laney.

2) Roll Call

Present: Commissioners: Allaman, Jonnalagadda, Laney, Moore, Pacheco and Shannon.

Absent: Commissioner: Xu.

3) Reports and Presentations

- a. Youth Services Librarian Debbie Centi presented the final report on the Summer Reading Program and discussed the different Youth Programs being offered at the library. She also mentioned that she will be retiring on October 13, 2023.
- b. Valerie Letch, member of the Friends of the Folsom Library, presented an overview of the Friends of the Library, including their purpose, projects, membership, and how they raise funds and support Folsom Public Library.
- c. Library Director Thomas Gruneisen reported that it is early into the fiscal year and that we are starting off in the right direction. The Monthly Statistics report confusingly shows that circulation has dropped, but we've found that this decrease is due to a lower amount of renewals – not original check-outs. Our community is still adjusting to what it means for the Library to be fine-free, and we hope that this pattern will correct itself as customers begin to receive notices and customers come to understand that their items still have due dates when they're checked out.

Library Director Thomas Gruneisen responded to comments and questions from the Library Commission.

4) Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Shannon moved to approve the July 18, 2023 Minutes as written. Commissioner Allaman seconded. Motion carried.

AYES:Commissioners: Allaman, Jonnalagadda, Laney, Moore, Pacheco, and Shannon.

NOES: Commissioners: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners: Xu.

ABSTAIN: Commissioners: None.

5) Business from the Floor

None.

6) New Business

None.

7) Library Director's Report

Library Director Thomas Gruneisen reported on the following:

- Baby story time has started at the library. It is held on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. for children 0-18 months. We had 18 babies in attendance on the first day and by the following week it had increased to 23.
- We have added "Toys" to our collection of items that can be checked out from the library. Debbie has put together the toys into kits for the children to play with at home. The Friends Books Sale will help to fund the purchase of new toys to add to the library. We will promote the toys to take home when we announce the library's new play structure and the STEM kits for school-age children.
- We have started to add Blu-Rays to the library collection. There has been no confusion between DVDS and Blu-Rays from our patrons, but their addition has been appreciated – our pilot collection showed 69 check-outs so far with only positive patron feedback.
- We have received our state funding for Zip Books. Zip Books is an amazing program funded by the State Library. When a Patron wants an item that is not inside our collection, they can fill out the form and we will

buy it for them through Amazon and it gets shipped directly to their home for free. The idea behind this program is that after the patron is done with the item, they return it to the library, and we add it to our collection. It makes our collection maintenance easier because we do not have to guess which titles to add to our collection and our library becomes more responsive to our public. Last year we were awarded \$13,428 this year we were awarded \$16,747 which is good, but the even better news is that we received our funding in September much earlier than the previous year of December.

- Community Service Day was this past weekend. 35 volunteers helped clean the library 3 hours, including tables, desks, and lots of shelves. We also had 50 people write letters to the military. We had 430 letters written to be included with the military care packages.
- The Friends of the Library are getting closer to moving into their new bookstore. We turned over the Café space to the Friends before their September book sale, and they are busy putting up shelves and getting it ready to open next month. The Friends had their book sale on September 8th through the 10th and they raised \$6,253 which will be used primarily to help us with our toy collection, STEM kits, and book collection.
- Our new cameras were just installed, which is very important to us.
- Library Calendar of Events. We have a local author, Cindy Fazzi coming on Saturday, September 30th to promote her book *Mullo*. We have other local authors coming in October for a Mystery Showcase.

8) Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Allaman said that she is always impressed by the services that the staff of the library offers. She uses the public computer, printer, and copier often and the staff are always kind and very helpful. She thanked Library Director Thomas Gruneisen for having such an outstanding staff.

Commissioner Moore commented that it was great to see the Summer Program work so well. It had pushed her to learn Bean Stack. Great job on the Summer Reading Program.

Commissioner Jonnalagadda commented that the two factors he was excited about was first, the Baby Program helps promote good habits at an early age and second adding the Telugu books to the collection. His community is very excited and happy about it.

Commissioner Pacheco also commented that she is excited about the Baby Program and toys.

Commissioner Vice Chair Shannon thanked us for providing the Library Calendar of Events and the schedule of the Youth Programs being offered.

Commissioner Chair Laney commented that she is always so impressed by the sheer volume of programming that our library puts on and every month at the Commission Meeting we learn that the library has something new they are rolling out. Chair Laney mentions that it feels very innovative. It is something that she would not have assumed from a library. It is incredibly cool and knows that it takes a lot of work to run the programs, keep those things coordinated and running with the staff you have. She commended the Library Director Thomas Gruneisen and the library staff for all the hard work they are doing.

9) **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Maximo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Elizabeth Maximo
Secretary to the Library Commission