

**EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

January 18, 2022

Board of Trustees: Diane Belote
Rebecca Frevert
Joshua Glasgow
Nick Shekeryk
Deanna Dunkin Smith

Library Staff: Abigail Cooley
Meghan Edwards-Bond
Emily Dagg
Mary-Claire Squires

City Staff: Lori Cummings
Paula Rhyne

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Nick read the land acknowledgement.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS & COUNCIL LIAISON

Joshua Glasgow was welcomed as the newest board member and Paula Rhyne was welcomed as the newest City Council liaison. Board members, City Council liaison and library staff provided personal introductions.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Nick Shekeryk was elected as Chair and Deanna Dunkin Smith was elected as Vice Chair for 2022.

MOTION: Made, seconded, approved the new elected officers.

APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2021

Minutes were approved as submitted.

REVIEW EXPENDITURE REPORTS

Nothing of note in the 110 fund, all spending was within average monthly amounts.

Nothing of note in the 152 fund, all spending was within average monthly amounts. Small tools and equipment included two new marketing TVs with mounts and an office chair. Professional services included funding for a total of 8 Youth Services and Adult Services programs.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Abby shared employees who celebrated service milestones in 2021. Feylin Cook (5 years), Tyler Johnson (10 years), Andrea Wallis (25 years), Scott Condon (30 years) and Joyce Peter (35 years).

Abby provided a COVID-19 update. The Library continues to work with City Administration, HR, and the Safety Division on guidelines and procedures, and KN95 masks are available to all staff. The Library is working with Snohomish Health District to distribute N95s and COVID tests to the public. There is no launch date at this time, and it is dependent on when supplies arrive. Masks are set to arrive tentatively by the end of this week, but tests are likely 2-3 weeks out. Kits will be distributed outside of the building and details are still being worked out. The Library is still on track to expand hours on February 22nd with a soft launch, but this may be pushed back pending cases. Rebecca shared her excitement about the distribution of tests and Diane shared her appreciation that the Library will be open on Sundays.

Abby shared that there will be one-on-one board training sessions available soon and that an email with timeslots to sign up will be sent out. Physical informational board binders will also be created and distributed soon.

Diane asked about the status of in-person meetings. Abby responded that the Library is following the lead of City Council, and Paula informed the board that City Council is following the lead of the Governor's guidelines.

2022 LIBRARY CLOSURE UPDATED REQUEST

Juneteenth is now recognized as a holiday by the city and will be recognized on Monday, June 20, 2022. The Library proposed closing on Sunday June 19, 2022 and Monday June 20, 2022.

MOTION: Made, seconded, approved the proposed closures.

SOCIAL WORKERS IN THE LIBRARY

City of Everett Social Work Intern, Mary-Claire Squires provided a personal introduction, a Fall quarter review, and shared plans through the Spring. Mary-Claire explained what a social worker does and how they can be beneficial to the Everett Public Library. Mary-Claire asked the board to reflect on this topic and share questions and thoughts. The main objective of Mary-Claire's research is to determine if a dedicated social worker is needed at the Everett Public Library and if so, what does that look like.

Abby shared past experience as a librarian that supports the need for a social worker. Reminded the group that one of the library's main mission is connect a variety of people to resources, and a social worker could provide additional support for staff, help with de-escalation situations, etc. Shared that other libraries are doing this, and benefits have been positive for staff and community. Emily spoke to the level of trust and safety the library provides and shared optimism that people may be more receptive to help if they are in a trusted space. Nick shared his support and cited it would be beneficial for foundational training for other librarians. Joshua shared his support especially as it pertains to the case management aspect. Rebecca shared her support and asked about logistics. Abby responded that office space would be made available, services would be promoted to the public and more details would need to be sorted since it is still in the research phase. Diane asked about next steps and Abby stated that if research lends the appropriate model for the Everett Public Library, next steps would be to discuss funding.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Next Board of Trustees meeting is February 15, 2022.

Paula Rhyne's email: prhyne@everettwa.gov

ADJOURN

With a motion, second, and unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.