

# City of Mesa Library Advisory Board Meeting

Date: January 18, 2022  
Time: 5:30 p.m.  
Location: Library Board Room & Zoom

## Members Present

Cynthia Jones, *Chair*  
Steven Miner, *Vice Chair*  
Ralph Wilson  
Ellen Bachman  
Joy Petroff  
Samantha Davis  
Megan Sterling  
Cindy Smith  
Alexis Ross

## Staff Present

Polly Bonnett  
Jesse Simms  
Joyce Abbott  
Tenecia Phillips  
Brandon Williams  
Tony Garvey  
Sara Lipich

## Members Absent

## Guests Present

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
<b>Call to Order</b>	Board Chair, Cynthia Jones, called the meeting for the City of Mesa Library Advisory Board to order at 5:33 p.m. on January 16, 2022.
<b>Approval of the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes</b>	<p>The November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were moved by Alexis Ross and seconded by Samantha Davis. Upon the tabulation of votes for the meeting minutes, the results showed:</p> <p>AYES – Jones, Miner, Wilson, Bachman, Petroff, Davis, Sterling, Smith, and Ross. NAYS – None</p>
<b>Public Comments</b>	There were no public comments.
<b>Introductions, Recognitions, and Announcements</b>	Director, Polly Bonnett, introduced new Red Mountain Branch Coordinator II, Tenecia Phillips, and new Assistant Library Director, Jesse Simms to the Board. Tenecia shared she comes from Pima County and was formerly the Main Branch Manager while in Tucson. Jesse shared he comes from the City of Buckeye and was formerly in charge of all library technology for their library system. Polly then introduced the newest Board member, Samantha Davis, as this was her first meeting with the Board. On top of her love for libraries, Samantha shared she lives in Eastmark, a mom of two, and on the Queen Creek Unified School Board. There were no other recognitions or announcements.
<b>City of Mesa/Library Marketing Campaign</b>	Marketing Communications Specialist II, Sara Lipich, shared an update with the Board about the current Marketing efforts being undertaken by MPL and the 2022 Marketing plan moving forward. She highlighted that MPL saved residents of Mesa 11 million dollars on audio and E-books in 2021. Sara also talked about the electronic newsletter and offered to help get any Board members subscribed if they were interested. She then shared the new smart city kiosks that can be seen throughout downtown and how MPL is promoting services on them. Sara lastly shared that in preparation for “I Love MPL” month, that residents were recording messages and testimonials on how the library has helped change their lives. Board

**AGENDA ITEM****DISCUSSION**

members are welcome to volunteer to be interviewed as well.

Board member Cindy Smith, Megan Sterling, and Board Chair, Cynthia Jones all shared how much they liked the marketing efforts and appreciated the work the MPL Marketing team has been taking to help build back Library users after the pandemic. Branch Coordinator II, Tenecia Phillips, also shared that the Marketing posts on MPL's Facebook is the sole reason she found the job posting for the position she is now in.

**BinaxNow Covid-19  
Test Kits**

Polly updated the Board on the BinaxNow distribution which began as a partnership with the County Library system in December 2021 and concluded in January, 2022. MPL helped distribute over 8,000 covid tests to the community over that time. She shared that they were in very high demand and were sold out almost instantaneously each day they were available.

**Library Director's  
Update**

Polly presented a Capital Improvement Project (CIP) presentation on the bond approved project of updating the façade and adding a THINKspot to the Dobson Ranch Library. This is a 1,500 sq ft addition to the branch and will cause the branch to close down for roughly 30 days as of February 7<sup>th</sup>. Polly shared the construction project will result in only one entrance and exit at the branch once complete. She also updated the board on the SE library branch project which is in the design phase. She shared that the Board will be able to participate in a Focus group to solicit their ideas on how the SE Library branch should look and operate. Lastly, she shared that Dobson Ranch's public bathroom is being added to the library's CIP list with hopes of it being renovated in the Fall of 2022. Board member Ralph Wilson asked about the cost and Polly shared that part of the project will fix drainage issues and excavation would be necessary.

Polly also updated the Board on the Library's budget preparation for FY22/23. She highlighted that MPL will receive a 5.17% operating budget increase which is tied to inflation. Polly discussed the efforts the City of Mesa is taking to retain and recruit employees during this tight labor market, pointing out the 5% pay increase that City staff will receive on 1/31/22. She concluded her presentation sharing an update on the ASU @ City Center project that is scheduled to open in March 2023.

**Identify items for future  
agenda**

Board Member, Ellen Bachman, requested updates on the Dobson Ranch bond project in future meetings.

**Next Meeting Dates**

March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Main Library (Board Room)

**Adjournment**

Board member Cindy Smith motioned, and Megan Sterling seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:13pm. Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Jones, Miner, Wilson, Bachman, Petroff, Davis, Sterling, Smith, and Ross.

NAYS – None

The next meeting will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Location is at the Main Branch Board Room.