

City of Mesa Library Advisory Board Meeting

Date: November 19, 2019
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: Mesa Public Library
Main Library, Library Board Room
64 E. 1st Street
Mesa, AZ 85201

Members Present

Alexis Ross, *Chair*
Megan Sterling, *Vice Chair*
Ralph Wilson
Nathaniel Wadsworth
Joy Petroff
Pamela Rineholt
Steven Miner
Cindy Smith

Staff Present

Heather Wolf
Brandon Williams
Anna Mathews
Polly Bonnett
Joyce Abbott
Tony Garvey
Brenna Klassen

Members Absent

Irene Frklich

Guests Present

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	Chair Member, Alexis Ross, called the meeting for the City of Mesa Library Advisory Board to order at 5:35 p.m. on November 19, 2019.
Approval of September 17th meeting minutes	<p>The September 17th meeting minutes were moved by Vice Chair Megan Sterling and seconded by Nathaniel Wadsworth. Upon the tabulation of votes for the meeting minutes, the results showed:</p> <p>AYES – Sterling, Wilson, Ross, Rineholt, Wadsworth, Miner, Smith, and Petroff NAYS – None</p>
Public Comments	There were no public comments.
Introductions, Recognitions, and Announcements	All Board Members and staff present introduced themselves.
Library Director's Update	<p>Fees and Fines</p> <p>Library Director, Heather Wolf, presented the Board with a Fees and Fines presentation, discussing the concept of going fine free and sharing the pros and cons of doing so. Discussion between Board Members ensued, the budget was discussed, and possible implications were deliberated.</p> <p>Board member Cindy Smith asked if old overdue fines would be waved and how patrons would be notified of their overdue fines being waved. Heather shared that they will indeed be waved and stats show from Salt Lake City which went fine free, that the number of books returned to the library system actually went up.</p>

AGENDA ITEM **DISCUSSION**

MPL would notify patrons of their overdue fines being waved electronically if going fine free is approved by City Council.

Board member Ralph Wilson wanted to know about the cost of the collection agency contract, the limit on the number of check-outs at a time, and how labor intensive the fee collection process is. Heather shared that the City loses money on the contract each year due to an under collection of the collection processing fee, shared that the number of check-outs per account is a maximum of 35, and discussed the staff time saved when overdue fines are removed from library systems.

Board Member Steven Miner asked if there are penalties for overdue fines and Chair Alexis Ross asked about the overdue process. Heather shared that patrons will still be responsible for their fees associated with lost or damaged items but there will not be additional overdue fines associated with it. The process for check-outs will remain the same and will be reviewed for efficiency as we move closer to going “fine free” if council approves.

Heather Wolf asked if the Board was interested in supporting MPL in going “fine free”?

Board Member Ralph Wilson moved to support the staff recommendation of going “fine free” and Board Member Cindy Smith seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously voted in the affirmative by all members present. Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Sterling, Wilson, Ross, Rineholt, Wadsworth, Miner, Smith, and Petroff
NAYS – None

Summer Reading Program

Librarian, Brenna Klassen, presented the Board with an update of the Library’s 2019 Summer Reading Program (SRP). She discussed the statistics on MPL’s effort at each of the branches and how they compared to the County and other Valley cities.

Board Member Ralph Wilson wanted to know about the marketing push that we do for SRP. Brenna discussed the various marketing channels, from TV to radio to billboard advertising. This effort was funded by the County Library system.

Identify items for future agenda

Vice Chair, Megan Sterling would like to discuss the Used Book Sales and Director, Heather Wolf stated that we will discuss Collection Management.

Next Meeting Dates

January 21st, 2020 – Main Library, Board Room

Adjournment

Board member Joy Petroff moved and Pamela Rineholt seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:23pm. Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Sterling, Wilson, Ross, Rineholt, Wadsworth, Miner, Smith, and Petroff
NAYS – None

The next meeting will be held on the 21st of January 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the Main Library, Board Room.