

City of Mesa Library Advisory Board Meeting

Date: September 21, 2021
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: Library Board Room & Zoom

Members Present

Cynthia Jones, *Chair*
Alexis Ross
Ralph Wilson
Megan Sterling
Cindy Smith
Steven Miner

Staff Present

Polly Bonnett
Tony Garvey
Brandon Williams
Anna Mathews
Joyce Abbott
Sara Lipich

Members Absent

Joy Petroff
Ellen Bachman
Samantha Davis

Guests Present

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	Board Chair, Cynthia Jones, called the meeting for the City of Mesa Library Advisory Board to order at 5:37 p.m. on September 21, 2021.
Approval of May 18th meeting minutes	<p>The May 18th meeting minutes were moved by Cindy Smith and seconded by Steven Miner. Upon the tabulation of votes for the meeting minutes, the results showed:</p> <p>AYES – Sterling, Jones, Wilson, Ross, Smith and Miner NAYS – None</p>
Public Comments	There were no public comments.
Introductions, Recognitions, and Announcements	Library Director, Polly Bonnett, introduced the newest Board member Samantha Davis to the Board, although she was unable to attend the September meeting. Polly recognized board member Megan Sterling for a successful completion of a full year as Board Chair and thanked her for her service. Polly also shared that the former Director, Heather Wolf retired after 15 years with MPL in August of 2021. She then notified the Board that she has been appointed the new Director of the department, effective August of 2021, and will be the main contact for the Board moving forward. Each staff member and board member present went around the room and introduced themselves, as this was the first Board meeting of the Fiscal Year.
Vice Chair Selection	<p>Board member Cindy Smith nominated Steven Miner as vice chair, which was seconded by Cynthia Jones. The Board unanimously approved Steven's nomination by all members present. Upon the tabulation of votes for the meeting minutes, the results showed:</p> <p>AYES – Sterling, Jones, Wilson, Ross, Smith and Miner NAYS – None</p>

AGENDA ITEM**DISCUSSION****Library Card Sign-Up Month**

Management Assistant II, Tony Garvey, gave a presentation on Library Card Sign-up Month, which is the month of September. He presented the results of a project coordinated by Library Administration and the City of Mesa's Nudge team, which aimed to encourage inactive card holders to renew their cards. He then shared the monthly goal for new card sign-ups and card renewals and discussed how the Library is looking to expand its user base over the next year. Board member Cindy Smith shared her experience with library card renewals being completed over the phone with the City of Tempe and suggested the improvement be made at MPL as well. Board member Steven Miner voiced his support of automating the renewal process.

Library Director's Update

Library Director, Polly Bonnett, presented the Board with updates on the 2018 voter approved bond projects of the Main Library's Children's room renovation, the Dobson Ranch THINKspot addition and façade improvement, and the Southeast Neighborhood Library branch construction project. Polly shared that the Dobson bond project is expected to be brought to Council by the end of November and an update will be given at the next Board meeting. She then showed a site map of the new Mesa Express Library branch located at the Monterey Park and discussed how the design stage of the project is going. Polly gave a brief overview of the Southeast branch library project. She shared that Richard Kennedy was selected to lead the design of the new branch and the next phase in the project will be stakeholder engagement. Board member Cynthia Jones asked for the cross streets of the new branch and Tony shared the closest cross streets are Eastmark Parkway and Ray rd.

Polly continued the Director's update discussing the current hiring effort the Library has been making over the last 8 months. She listed the position creations that have been made, most recently modifying and creating a Marketing Communications Specialist I, Supervising Library Assistants at the Main and Red Mountain branches, a Library Equipment Assistant, and a soon to be filled Assistant Library Director. She concluded her update with a Children's room renovation status now that the project is complete, reminding the Board of the tour to follow the meeting. Cynthia Jones commented on how nice the room turned out and how impressed she was. Polly noted the huge role Marketing & Communications Specialist II, Sara Lipich, played in the color scheme and design.

Identify items for future agenda

No items identified for future meetings at this time. Polly mentioned that future meetings may be held at the other branch locations. More info to come soon.

Next Meeting Dates

November 16th, 2021 – Location is at the Main Library.

Adjournment

Board member Steven Miner motioned, and Megan Sterling seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm. Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Sterling, Jones, Wilson, Ross, Smith and Miner
NAYS – None

The next meeting will be held on the 16th of November 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Location is at the Main Library.