

EUGENE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

September 19, 2019 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Singer Room, Downtown Library, 100 West 10th

Present: Tristan Bentzinger, Lance Keith, Sara Lopez, Connie Regali, Ellen Todras

Absent: Allan Benevides, Miriam Clark, Merav Lafer-Kirtner

Staff: Renee Grube, LaVena Nohrenberg, Will O’Hearn, Kristen Thorpe, Matias Torres

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Additions/corrections to this month’s agenda: None
3. Approval of Minutes: Approved
4. Public comment: None
5. Information about library outreach efforts: Kristen Thorpe and Matias Torres

Adult Services staff provide library services offsite in a variety of locations in order to reach adults of all ages and targeting different areas of the community who might not be coming to the library. Locations have included: Valley River Center, University of Oregon, Neighborhood Association meetings, pools, and senior living facilities. In addition, the library regularly has a booth at community events such as Sunday Streets, Party in the Park, and the Pride Festival. When doing outreach we provide information about the library and offer some type of hands-on experiences such as virtual reality goggles, button makers, and the Mobile 3D printer. During the last year, Adult Services staff delivered 58 offsite events, reaching 1,900 people.

Youth Services staff approach each age group differently for their outreach efforts. To reach preschoolers and their parents, staff delivered Storytime-To-Go (volunteers providing storytimes offsite) and visited Head Start locations; there was an emphasis on reaching Latin families. Elementary age offsite events were held at schools, recreation centers, and Cornerstone Community Housing’s low-income apartment complexes; staff members are seeing kids at the library that they met at outreach events. We are working with United Way on helping students reach the 3rd grade reading bench marks. This past year Teen Services has been focusing efforts to increasing onsite teen oriented programs, and next year there will be more offsite programs. Youth Services’ offsite programs are aimed at covering some of the gaps at schools, such as teaching about library resources and homework help, but also at providing opportunities to do hands-on maker activities. Last years, Youth Services staff provided 280 offsite programs reaching 6,000 people.

Suggestions from the Advisory Board members: Look at connecting with veterans, such as at the Veterans Stand Down event. Sara Lopez invited the library to come to her classroom.

6. Board governance vote: Lance Keith was voted as Chair and Sara Lopez was voted as Co-Chair.

7. Information Share and/or Announcements. Video games were added to the collection and quickly became very popular. Plans are still in the works to stop charging overdue fines for kids’ items. The Library has resources for book clubs, including Book Group in a Box. The Library still plans to move to the 4th floor at some point; services are beyond capacity on the other floors. On November 9th, the Friends are having a sale in the Bascom/Tykeson room; they are selling the cream of the crop books that could make holiday gifts. Monica Wilton is retiring at the end of the month; please join the Foundation for a retirement party on September 26th.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 21, 2019, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Singer Room