

Wasco County Library Service District
Board meeting
July 19, 2022
Location: The Dalles, and via Zoom

Board members attending: Corliss Marsh, Vicki Thomas, Deward Hext

Staff members attending: Jeff Wavrunek, Rita Squires

Meeting was called to order at 3:31 pm

Minutes: No changes necessary, Vicki Thomas moved to approve, seconded by Deward Hext, passed unanimously.

Visitors and interested parties: none

Director's reports:

The Dalles Jeff has met with the City Manager regarding storage space; the City is looking at expanding the existing storage building in the upper parking lot by the Book Barn. There is a possibility that the Library would be able to share that space with the City.

Staffing has been an issue recently, as COVID has hit several employees. In addition, we had a couple folks out with previously scheduled vacations.

We're sending two people to an all-day book mending workshop on Friday. Two others are at a weeklong art class training, being held at Maryhill Museum. They'll come back with lots of ideas for programs through this professional development training.

Maupin Not here

Dufur (report via email) We have been having a great turnout for the summer reading program and the Teen Takeover. We have two more Summer Reading Programs left this year and 5 more Teen Takeovers.

This year for summer reading I am not giving out prizes. The kids are reading for jewels and creating bracelets. Parents have commented on how they appreciate not having junk go home and that this has really encouraged kids to read. The reptile man was well attended bringing in 130 people. The Teen Takeover has averaged about 6 kids (the teens are getting jobs and a life, and are getting busier so they miss more library events).

The part-time employee that was hired last year will be leaving August 3rd. I am working with the city on hiring a new person to fill this position. In the meantime, the plan is to hire a temporary person to keep up the outreach portion

Old business – Update on the website and outreach van. We're scheduled to be on the City Council agenda in September for approval of the van. We're going through a buying cooperative called OMNIA Partners, so we won't need competitive bids. The company is called Farber Specialty Vehicles, they've given us a quote of \$219,689.

The website is also being redone; Jeff has sent the contracts that we would need to sign, to the City Attorney. The contracts need to be reworded, to fit Oregon law. The new website will be much easier for our county library staff to update, and includes a more functional calendar. The cost will be about \$33,000, and includes a new logo.

There was a discussion about short story dispensers (they were displayed at PLA). Very simply, you push a button, select the appropriate age, such as children, teen, or adult, and you get a 2-3-minute story printed out like a cash register receipt. What is so exciting is that we can partner with local schools. A student could write a story, and it would be used in the dispenser and made available to the community to read. Imagine pushing a button in a public space like Fred Myer, and you read a story from a student at Chenoweth or Colonel Wright. It really helps kids engage in reading and writing. One of the features is that when the story prints out, it will include our logo, name, address, etc. The Library Director has written a grant to purchase three of them, one for each of the libraries to use. If the grant doesn't work out, money has been placed in the budget to purchase the dispensers.

New business – The Director had already mentioned possibly sharing a storage shed with the City, but in the meantime, we are looking at getting temporary storage.

Financial review – The financial report is for the month of June, though it is not yet complete, as there are still expenditures that will get put on next month.

Statistics – no comments

Next meeting will be September 20, 2022 at The Dalles Library at 2:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at: 4:17 pm.

WASCO COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE
DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Corliss Marsh, Chairman

Mary Beechler, Vice Chairman

Deward Hext, Board Member

Tina Coleman, Board Member

Vicki Thomas, Board Member