

Wasco County Library Service District
Board meeting
October 18, 2022
Location: The Dalles, and via Zoom

Board members attending: Corliss Marsh, Tina Coleman, Deward Hext

Staff members attending: Jeff Wavrunek, Valerie Stephenson (via Zoom)

Meeting called to order at: 2:36pm

Approval minutes – Deward Hext moved to approve minutes as submitted, seconded by Tina Coleman, passed unanimous

Recognition of visitors and interested parties: none

Director reports:

Maupin – Banned Book Week, people are always amazed at the books that have been challenged, and why. Valerie has been appointed to the Oregon Library Association Intellectual Freedom Committee. Maupin received a phone call from someone asking if the library carries books about transgender. The patron had some concerns. The patron was told that the library provides books for everybody; and that it is up to each family to decide what is right for their own family to read.

Valerie attended her first official LEO board meeting and election recently. She is now the co-chair, along with Ann McCusker.

The cookbook club, Cookin' the Books, has become popular. They pick a theme each month and cook something from a cookbook. Each month they have a potluck, talk about the recipe, and the food. The first one was Mediterranean food. 13 people showed up. Since then others have asked about the club. The next meeting is next week, the theme will be pizza and salad; they are going to use the pizza oven from the Library of Things to cook the pizza.

The library started offering Snapdragon Yoga. The response has been great. Kids love it, in fact, one kid told his mother that this is the best thing ever to happen at the library!

Maupin Library held a book launch last month for Donna Henderson's newest poetry book. It was well attended. On October 4th Maupin hosted part two of the Warm Springs Cultural program with Delson Suppah. The first part was in June, this was the second half. The movie, *Three Warriors*, was shown. It was filmed on the Warm Springs reservation in 1977. Afterwards there was a question and answer session with Delson.

The Health Department has been coming out monthly to meet people and provide resources. On Oct 28th the library is hosting International Culture Day, with games, treats, craft projects and stories from around the world.

The Library of Things is working out well. Items are returned intact and clean. People are amazed at what they can check out. These items are currently shelved where “new arrivals” had been located. The Library of Things includes lawn games, Kitchen Aide attachments, and an Instapot and pizza oven.

Dufur: via email – “Dufur School Community Library is going strong. Our children's and teen programs are well attended. The adult programs are lacking in participants. I have never really been able to get them to reengage after COVID closures.”

Concern was expressed by the Board regarding lack of use by adults in the community. Is there a way to get the word out that the Dufur Public Library is available? Perhaps residents are not aware that they can place items on hold, and pick them up in Dufur. Apparently, there is not much of a selection for adults, as the majority of the collection is aimed at students. Perhaps a display of some current best sellers, both books and videos? Valerie shared that at a previous library, a collection of newer items was rotated around the various branches, so displays didn't go stale. Jeff suggested that when the courier delivery is made each week that it includes a selection of DVDs and books, so patrons have a bigger selection.

The Dalles: Kristen is the new outreach/courier employee. The new cataloger is Corina, promoted from the library page position. She is very productive and doing a great job. The library will be interviewing to fill her previous page position soon.

The State Library statistics have been completed. Last week, Darci Hanning, from the State Library toured the library. She asked about bilingual storytimes. They were offered in the past, but participation was extremely low.

Last Friday we offered a Ghost Walk program. It was a tour of buildings that are supposedly haunted in The Dalles. 50 people showed up, almost too many to accommodate. The library is initiating a Community Read with *Alice in Wonderland*. 200 books were given away and there are many activities planned, such as croquet in the library and a tea party.

Recently we had local tattoo artist, Jacob Hanks, do an event on his art. Jacob is nationally known, having won many awards. The program garnered an enthusiastic audience

We are investigating a temporary storage unit for the library.

There was a brief discussion about the Community Rewards program through Fred Meyer and whether or not library patrons were aware of this program. Corliss shared that the library receives about \$25-40 each quarter through this program. This is pretty good

considering the other non-profits in the area that are participants. Jeff will check into getting promotional material, as there are probably many people unaware of this program.

Old Business: Library Board training and long-range planning, have been on the agenda for some time, but each month the entire board is not present. It was suggested that this be scheduled for the next meeting at 4:30, with the Library Board meeting at 3:30 pm.

New Business: The City of the Dalles considers the Friday after Thanksgiving a holiday. Some staff have to work Saturdays while the rest of the staff enjoy a four-day weekend. Library usage is extremely low on that Saturday. In the interest of fairness, the Library Board decided that the library should be closed on Saturday as well.

There was a question as to why patrons at the Dufur Library don't get a physical library card. It is inconvenient for Dufur patrons using their card at other libraries. There was a discussion about this and Jeff will talk to Sarah.

Financial review: Everything was approved for the new outreach van, but it looks like delivery is next fiscal year. The HVAC system needs replacing, but it has been difficult getting a quote, as contractors are busy.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 15th at 3:30, at The Dalles Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at: 3:38 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