

NEILL PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD - 5/8/2019  
OBSERVER - Zuma Lee Staba

Members present: Kris Boreen (Chair), Beth Hindman, Mary Jane Neill, Ann Parks (ex-officio, City Council), Lori Lewis (Administrative Assistant, Meeting Secretary), Joanna Bailey (Director)  
Absent: Dan LeBeau and Jann Hill, both excused

Kris Boreen opened the meeting beginning with the normal approvals of Minutes (4/10/19), Expenditures, and Salary Warrants for April. Library Director Joanna Bailey provided her Director's Report. The statistics for April activities were all a little lower than for March, 2019, but exceeded those for April, 2018. Lori Lewis and Ann Parks attended a Board docs software training. The City is working towards more centralized computer systems for multiple departments. Joanna and Lori attended a Uniflow presentation. Many City departments contract with a variety of copier providers with various contract end dates so the City is trying to coordinate moving all departments to a single provider while considering the multiple copier contracts termination dates. The implementation date still must be decided. Joanna trained four volunteers to facilitate Virtual Reality programming at ArtFest.

Two part-time employees have resigned because each has found a Full-Time job (the reason most employees resign), so Joanna will be seeking replacements. (If you know anyone who might be interested, let them know about the part-time openings.)

One of Joanna's primary goals involves encouraging the community to consider the Library as a community gathering place and resource, plus increasing the percentage of the population with Library Cards. On April 2, 47 people attended an "Illustrating Little House on the Prairie" program. On 4/13 Lori and Rachel staffed a table at the Family Fair demonstrating and encouraging the children to learn with ozobots which are little robot-type gizmos that do different things depending on the color of the path drawn on paper with special markers. (It's hard to describe something I haven't seen!) The ozobots attracted quite a crowd during the five hours of the Fair. Joanna is considering ways to make the ozobots available for a wider audience since 51 people asked to be kept informed about future ozobot programming. They also registered six people for Library Cards. On 4/18 the Library staffed a table during Kindergarten Registration handing out 133 packets containing a free small book, Library card and services information compliments of the Friends of Neill Public Library (FNPL). Virtual Reality (VR) programs have been offered on Tuesdays from 3:00 - 6:00 pm with varying attendance, but the fewer the participants the longer they each get to "play".

Every Saturday from February 9 to April 6, WSU students helped people complete their Federal Income Tax Forms serving 181 people. On April 26, the Library provided space for a WSU-related program "Writing with the Stars: William Carlos Williams".

\*On May 24 (at 4:30, Hecht Room) the Library will host a joint program with Spokane Falls Community College titled The "Arab World: Historical and Cultural Perspectives" by a visiting Fulbright Scholar Dr. Mohammed Boudoudou.

For most of May the Library Staff will be preparing for Artfest May 17, 18, and 19. From 4:00 - 8:00 Friday, May 17, they will have an Open House with food catered by The Lumberyard. Saturday they will have a Kid's Art Workshop in the Library plus a booth at the Saturday Street Fair where people can try out the Virtual Reality gear. At least three volunteers have received VR training so they can help in the Street Fair booth. If you can, go by the Library that weekend to check out the two new metal art pieces on the corner and the art inside. Outside is a special recycled metal bench with farm tools on the back and wagon wheels on the sides created by Shelly Gilmore who took exceptional care in designing and sanding the bench to ensure there were no sharp edges. Shelly is a metal artist and a welder (by passion). The bench is a gift from the Ingleside Book Club in recognition of their centennial year. There will also be a 6' metal piece somewhat like a mobile in the corner. Otherwise the staff will be gearing up for The Summer Reading Program.

The Book Drop is temporarily out of service because of a broken lock. The Library plans to spruce it up with new signs including a design including book spines for which Joanna will be seeking the best way to determine which books get prominence. The Library/FNPL have received several contributions in memory of Jim Short and Jim Barron (sp ??). Without Dan LaBeau's presence, policy discussions were postponed. The meeting adjourned at 3:45.

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