

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Neill Public Library

Date: July 21, 2021

Observer Reporting: Francy Pavlas Bose

Length of Meeting: 2 + hours

Members Present/Absent: Mary Jane Neill (chair) Kris Boreen; Brandon Wolking; Dan LeBeau;

Others Present (i.e., media, public): Ann Parks(City Council), Lori C Lewis (Library Adm. Assistant) ,
Joanna Bailey –Library Director

Meeting Content:

It was reported that the **Sarah More Nook** has been completely funded by donations. Construction will be starting soon, after more than 7 or 8 years of 'planning'.

The **Friends Book Sale** was billed as a "Bonanza," as more than \$1000 was collected, which is the total amount of the yearly book sales in the library!!!.

Lori Lewis reported that 45% of **the budget** was spent by middle of July. The money not spent in the budget is not lost and can possibly be re-evaluated and spent on materials.

The highlights of the **Director's Report**: Circulation restored; increase of 200% of visits; Friends of Library, showcasing community people "reading" program was very positive and will continue; most programs increased participation except Teenbook Cloud and Tumblebook. Due to poor usage and the availability of an equitable product from the Washington Anytime Library, we will not be renewing this database when it expires in November. In the interest of staff time we will cease tracking usage after June.

Brandon Wolking reported that there are three **candidates for Youth Services Position** who will be interviewed next week.

Lori Lewis reported on the **Policy Review of Display, Exhibit and Bulletin Board Policy** Changes. She reported what she learned from her review of 22 libraries. She will provide a summary and proposed changes to the board for review policy; further discussion and policy changes will continue at the August meeting.

The Discussion of **Late Fines** was extensive with many ideas about dropping late fines considering staffing costs versus money collected and the resulting lack of access to books due to late fines by people in most need of the library. This discussion was only about "Late Fines" not fees/fine for lost or damaged library materials. The Director will speak to City Council for input, and the discussion will continue at the next meeting with more data available to members at that time. It was mentioned that *"Late Fees" should not block a person from using the library."*

Next meeting will be August 18th.

Process & Protocol:

This board is always prepared and willing to voice opinions.

Additional comments/opinions:

This meeting was scheduled a week later than usual meeting.

(Due to technical difficulties, I missed the first twenty minutes of the meeting joining at the end of the Friends of the library report.)