

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
MONROVIA LIBRARY BOARD
HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020**

CONVENE: President Harvis convened the regular meeting of the Monrovia Library Board on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Due to the current Coronavirus Pandemic, the meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Staff in attendance: Community Services Director Tina Cherry, Library Manager, Carey Vance, Adult Services Supervisor, Rebecca Elder, Youth Services Supervisor, Linda Vera, Literacy Coordinator, Victor Castellanos, Administrative Assistant Giana Marini.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Boardmember Wall led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL: In attendance: Boardmember Wall, Boardmember Walters, Boardmember Carlson, and President Harvis. Vice President Thomas was excused.

PRESENTATIONS: None

CONSENT CALENDAR: It was moved by Boardmember Walters and seconded by Boardmember Carlson. There were no objections, and the motion was unanimously approved.

CC-1 Unadopted Minutes of the August 27, 2020 Regular Meeting

CC-2 Adult and Youth Services Program Report for September 2020

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB): Chiara Cimarusti, 12th grader at John Marshall High School, provided updates on current and upcoming TAB events.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

AR-1 Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Literacy Services Update – Victor Castellanos, Literacy Coordinator provided updates on the status of Literacy Services. There is a total of 28 volunteer tutors that have contributed 1,916 volunteer hours. Their contribution has saved the library \$52,115 which equates to \$27.20 per hour. There were 52 learners that have been paired to work one-on-one with tutors. Each pair has accomplished at least one goal in the past year. These goals included writing a biography and a memoir, being accepted into college for a child development program, and reading and writing for the first time. Some of the program's accomplishments this past year included the annual literacy fundraiser, end of the year potluck, the launching of new learner clubs, the library field trips, pronunciation and creative writing workshops, and a new family literacy program that introduced the new "Fresh Reads" collection. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, Literacy Services is being conducted fully online. This has allowed more opportunities for the program to be held multiple times throughout the week instead of bimonthly.

Literacy Services was awarded two grants for the 2019/2020 fiscal year totaling \$77,191. A total of \$82,972 has been approved for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

CC-1

After discussion, it was moved by Boardmember Wall and seconded by Boardmember Walters to: receive and file **AR-1 Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Literacy Services Update**.

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

RFS-1 Tina Cherry, Community Services Director

- The Bobcat Fire began on September 6 and over 1,600 safety personnel have helped fight the fire. The fire has burned 113,000 acres of land and currently has a 50 percent containment rate. The City transformed the Community Center as a temporary information and cooling center for Monrovia and partnered with surrounding organizations to provide relief to those in need. Since the wildfire has subsided, the evacuation orders have been lifted and the Emergency Operating Center EOC operations have been lowered. The effects of the fire created poor air quality throughout the city and caused smoke damage to city facilities, forcing city services to be temporarily suspended. Canyon Park suffered severe damage to the land and is currently closed to the public. The Hillside Wilderness Reserve has not had any critical impact.
- Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, Monrovia has canceled annual fall and holiday programs. The City is hosting other programs instead including Halloween movies and costumes at the park, a Chalksgiving event, Mid-autumn Festival Celebration, and the Wiggle, Waggle, Walk event with the Pasadena Humane Society. City staff is assisting the Foothill Unity Center on a weekly basis to support the food distribution program that serve over 250 families.

RFS-2 Carey Vance, Library Manager

- The Fall Reading Program will take place October 1 through October 31 and will be done completely online through Beanstack. For every ten activities that patrons complete, one book will be donated to Foothill Unity to be distributed to families in need. The library received Beanstack and JobNow databases for free from the State Library for the next three years and two years respectively.
- Curbside pickup service was suspended for ten days during the Bobcat Fire. Staff continued to work from home and answered texts and emails from patrons. During the past month, 5,392 books were checked out, 35 e-cards were issued, 462 patrons sent 2,984 text messages, 57 emails were received, and 468 phone calls were answered.
- During March through August 1,432 patrons used the HelpNow homework database. Last year during this time there were only 164 patrons who used the program.

LIBRARY BOARD LIAISON REPORTS:

- LR-1** Boardmember Carlson: The Foundation is currently working on administrative duties and reallocating funds as needed.
- LR-2** President Harvis: The Historical Museum Board Meeting for September 25 has been canceled. Staff are working on updating policies and procedures.
- LR-3** Vice President Thomas: Excused. Councilmember Becky Shevlin spoke on behalf of Vice President Thomas. Citrus College will be doing a presentation in October about the bond measure for the Monrovia Coordinating Council.

LR-4 Boardmember Wall: Monrovia Reads will be hosting “Read Across Monrovia” virtually this year and has been collaborating with KGEM-TV to prepare for the program.

LR-5 Boardmember Walters: The next Friends of the Library meeting will be held on October 5.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular Library Board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. virtually via zoom.

ADJOURNMENT: The regular meeting of the Library Board was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.