



**Banks Public Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
ZOOM Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER AT 7:01 PM & DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

In Attendance – Linda Lybecker, Lynda Goovaerts, Elaine Goldman, Bobbie Gregg, Pete Edison, Denise Holmes

Absent – Ann Witkowski

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS: None

CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Minutes of Library Board Meeting** on February 21, 2023: Elaine Goldman made a motion to accept as presented; Lynda Goovaerts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

2. **Library Services Activity Update** – Denise Holmes reported that the OHSU Walkability Study participant recruitment is going well – 17 people have signed up. Pokemon Club attendance was 18 in March, a more manageable number, compared to last month. Homestead Series March program – 24 people attended the cheese making class. Mrs. VanDomelen's second grade class visited last week. Susan Cackler has held sessions at the Banks Elementary School to read and talk about the Oregon Reader Choice Award titles and the Beverly Cleary Children's Choice Award titles. The Friends of the Library provided the books to assist with these programs.
3. **WCCLS Update** – Holmes reported that WCCLS' new organizational structure is now in place. There new roles and assignments to allow for more efficiency and flexibility in responding to member library and library user needs. Recruiting for several new positions will roll out slowly, depending on budget-related considerations. Policy Group has been discussing the current budget challenges. Isolated instances of drug use has been a concern in a few of the larger libraries and a discussion was held about this issue.
4. **Budget Update** – Holmes shared a "Funding and Budget 101" document to increase the understanding of how the library budget works. This was very informative for the Board. The budget is always a challenge. Holmes stated that some member libraries' Library Boards are considering advocating to the County Commissioners concerning the funding crisis and she asked Board members if they wanted to participate. It was pointed out that this kind of effort could take extensive time and energy on Board's part. Pete Edison reminded Board members that the County's current budget situation touches more areas than just the libraries and that we can be thankful not much has changed in terms of the funding our library receives from the County. The Board agreed with this sentiment and will not seek to pursue advocacy efforts at this time.

NEW BUSINESS – None

REPORTS

5. City Report – Councilor Edison reported on several items from the March 8th Council meeting:

- The FY23/24 budget was discussed, in particular the cost increases to Law Enforcement Services. Police overtime, which, for example, is needed to control traffic for events like parades, was previously covered within the contract. In FY23/24, the City will need to pay those costs as an additional expense.
- Council passed a new water rate structure. Rates are now on a tiered system, using the same base rate as before. If customers use more water than the base amount they will incur additional costs, depending on their volume of use.
- Council adopted a new Master Water Plan, including a significant change: the City will exclusively pursue a strategy to make use of local water sources, as opposed to looking water providers outside our area for additional water supply.
- Connor Hayes is the newly appointed Public Works Supervisor and is doing an excellent job.
- Wilkes Street improvement projects, estimated to cost \$1.1 million, were discussed.
- Council approved an OLCC license for Cup or Joy, a new Coffee and Wine Bar.

6. Executive Report – March meeting was cancelled, no report.

7. Directors Report –

- Holmes reported that there have been recent attempts to censor books at several libraries, including the West Linn Library. Objections to specific titles or lists of titles are now more likely to come from groups who have organized campaigns instead of from an individual parent, as has been most common in the past. Banks library has a very solid Material Selection Policy, which includes a reconsideration process and form if there is an objection to a title in the library. The Board will review this policy and form to ensure that it addresses the current climate of challenges, and protects the freedom to read, per the City ordinance and other Library policies.

8. Friends –

- Friends Book Sale coming up on April 13th, 14th, 15th and 17th.
- See's Candy Fundraiser ends March 24.
- Raise a Glass will be held July 9 at the OutAZABlue restaurant. The Silent Auction will happen only at the event. Tickets will be for sale at the Library and on the Auctria website.
- A new Friends' logo and brochure was created by Lisa Power, in collaboration with the Friends. The brochure is attractive, up to date and will be professionally printed.

COMMITTEE ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Denise Holmes added 2 announcements-

- The City held its first Citizen's Academy on March 11th at the Fire Department to inform residents about the way City government and the various City departments work, as well as how our system of Boards, Commissions and Committees work with the City Manager and City Council.
- A new round of leadership training is available from Rural Development Initiatives (RDI) who provided the Ford Leadership training in the community years ago. Stay tuned for more information.

ADJOURN – meeting adjourned 8:01 PM



Minutes submitted by Lynda Goovaerts and Denise Holmes

Next Library Board Meeting – Tuesday April 19, 2023, 7:00 pm

Future Agenda Items: Strategic Plan and Survey Responses, Budget update, Policy Review