

Library District of Clackamas County Advisory Committee

Minutes - **UNAPPROVED**

January 5, 2021

Meeting conducted via virtual meeting platform, Zoom

ATTENDANCE

Advisory Committee Voting Members

MEMBER	LIBRARY	ATTENDANCE	NOTES
Denise Fonseca	Canby Public Library	Present	
Grover Bornefeld	Clackamas County Library - Oak Lodge	Present	
Connie Redmond	Estacada Public Library	Present	
Natalie Smith	Gladstone Public Library	Present	Vice Chair
Al Matecko	Happy Valley Public Library	Present	Chair
Jacque Siewert-Schade	Lake Oswego Public Library	Present	
Robin Chedister	Ledding Library of Milwaukie	Present	
VACANT	Molalla Public Library		
Nick Dierckman	Oregon City Public Library	Present	
Kathleen Draine	Sandy / Hoodland Public Library	Present	
Aeric Estep	West Linn Public Library	Absent	
Megan Chuinard	Wilsonville Public Library	Absent	

Others Present

NAME	NOTES
Pat Duke	Director, Wilsonville Public Library
Jack Frick	Resident of Sandy, OR
Doris Grolbert	Director, Happy Valley Public Library
Melissa Kelly	Director, Lake Oswego Public Library
Michele Kinnamon	Director, Estacada Public Library
Kathryn Kohl	Manager, Clackamas County Library Network LDAC Liaison
Sarah McIntyre	Director, Sandy and Hoodland Public Libraries
Diana Morrow	Alternate LDAC member, Happy Valley Library
Katie Newell	Director, Ledding Library of Milwaukie
Mitzi Olson	Director, Oak Lodge Library Director, Gladstone Public Library
Danny Smith	Director, Canby Public Library
Allegra Willhite	Deputy Director, Clack Co. Business & Community Services
Greg Williams	Director, Oregon City Public Library

Call to order, introductions, and roll call

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Chair Al M. at 7:00 PM. During the introductions Denise Fonseca and Robin Chedister were welcomed as new LDAC members, Danny Smith was welcomed as the new Library Director at the Canby Public Library, and Allegra Willhite as the new Deputy Director of Clackamas County's Business and Community Services department.

Approval of minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from 1/27/2020. Natalie S. moved to approve the minutes as written. Denise F. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports/Presentations:

Concord Property and Library Planning Task Force, and Gladstone Community Library Planning Task Force update:

Mitzi updated the group on the status of the Concord and Gladstone task forces:

- The two task force groups have been meeting virtually throughout the pandemic.
- The draft of the master plan for both projects has been completed and is in the process of submitting the plans to the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners for approval. The plans are available online.
- The final costs are preliminary at this time and are subject to change due to factors such as potential grant opportunities, finalization of the schematic design, and possible changes in construction costs.

LDAC members expressed enthusiasm about the projects and the task force process, curiosity about the funding for the project, and concerns about whether Library District funds would be used for capital expenses. Mitzi and Allegra shared that there is an anticipated funding gap, and Clackamas County has agreed to make up the difference (most likely a revenue bond secured by the general fund).

LINCC Libraries Adapting to Challenges of 2020/COVID-19 Pandemic:

Chair Matecko asked the group to share examples of LINCC libraries adapting to the challenges of 2020:

Katie Newell, Ledding Library of Milwaukie: all LINCC libraries are working together to provide services to residents such as curbside pick-up, and online programming such as storytimes and book clubs. The Libraries are also purchasing online resources for patrons.

Jacque Siewert-Schade, Lake Oswego Public Library: early in the pandemic Lake Oswego Library staff helped in the City's Citizen Support Center to assist residents, and helped again during the wildfires in September. The Library offered options in their parking lot with tents for patrons to

visit (e.g., children’s materials, adult reference, and browsing), and dedicated parking spaces for people to use the Wi-Fi. The annual LO Reads event is happening in 2021 with Isabel Wilkerson’s book **Caste**. Jack Frick mentioned that he recommends this book highly.

Kathleen Draine, Sandy & Hoodland Public Libraries: great success offering take-and-make craft activities for all ages, especially crafts with a purpose/mission. For example, around the winter holidays over 600 cards were made by patrons to give out to seniors through the local senior center and the Meals on Wheels program, and the annual giving tree was filled with handmade mittens, scarves, and hats.

Greg Williams, Oregon City Public Library: staff coming up with different ideas, many of which can continue after the pandemic such as working more closely with local schools, utilizing new skills in online programming and video editing, and new ways to provide service and communicate.

Michele Kinnamon, Estacada Public Library: the library surveyed the community during the pandemic and discovered that most people wanted the ability to pick up items from the library so that is where staff have been focusing their efforts. For example, during the Summer Reading Program, many books were given away, with support from a grant and local businesses. The library was closed for nine days during the wildfires and returned to a smoky library, but staff were eager to start serving patrons again. Connie Redmond mentioned that she enjoyed getting personalized reading selections from the library.

Denise Fonseca, Canby Public Library: Canby hired a new City Administrator and a new Library Director in 2020, and staff demonstrated great flexibility with all the changes during the pandemic.

After a brief break in the meeting, Chair Matecko then asked the group to share examples where the libraries addressed issues related to equity, diversity, and inclusion in the past year:

Greg Williams, Oregon City Public Library: the library continued their community conversations about race in a “Building Bridges book club online.

Melissa Kelly, Lake Oswego Public Library: a trainer was hired to train the staff regarding foundational bias, and the library partnered with a local grassroots organization called “Respond to Racism” to offer a book club.

Sarah McIntyre, Sandy & Hoodland Public Libraries: the libraries released an anti-racism statement and a LGBTQIA statement, and are partnering with a local group called “Stand Up” to offer different programming related to racial issues.

Doris Grolbert, Happy Valley Library: Happy Valley has a citywide committee to address issues of race and diversity, and staff have received related training. The City welcomed a Black Lives

Matter march, and the library is receiving positive feedback related to their book bundles with diverse titles.

New Business:

Planning for meetings in 2021

The group discussed how they would like to find a way to regain the momentum started by the Library District Task Force, which only had one meeting in January 2020 before being postponed due to the pandemic. Highlights of the ensuing discussion:

- Wanting to focus on the future, and prioritize the needs of the libraries and the Library District overall.
- Wanting to work together collectively to help each other.
- Desire to address the issue of funding capital expenses before new libraries are built.
- Crediting the Library Directors for their written statement, included in the original task force charter, about why the long term needs of the Library District need to be addressed.
- Al M. offered to speak to Commissioner Savas/contacts at the County to gather ideas for how to move the work forward, and to report back at the next meeting.

It was decided that the next meeting will be on the 4th Monday in March, March 22nd at 6pm using the virtual meeting platform, Zoom.

LDAC Chair / Vice Chair Elections:

Grover B. moved to extend the terms of the current Chair and Vice Chair for an additional year due to lack of meetings during the COVID-10 pandemic, and Natalie S. seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor (Al Matecko abstained).

Libraries News and Announcements:

Chair Matecko asked the participants to share how they are feeling about the coming year, and there were many comments related to being optimistic, creative, persevering, grateful for staff, and understanding that the pandemic will not be going away anytime soon.

Adjournment

Kathleen D. moved to adjourn the meeting, Grover B. seconded, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

-Minutes submitted by Kathryn Kohl