ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 16, 2021

In-Person Meeting

Board members attending: Mark Hudson (Chair), Robin Brackett, Doug Bridges, Miranda Hyland, Elainie Conz, Nicole Neales, Niya Pitts, Michelle Garey. Not in attendance: Rebecca Higgins.

Others attending: Wright Adams (Library Director), Sarah Edmonds, Sam Woolhiser, Meghan Blackburn, Maggie Hohne.

Minutes: Michelle Garey moved to accept. ? seconded. Motion approved.

Mark introduced Maggie Gifford Hohne and noted her application is in process for appointment to the Advisory board.

  - Miranda Hyland is currently acting as interim vice chair.
  - Robin Brackett has previously served as the chair.
  - Secretary—no one is currently serving in this role.
  - Mark’s last meeting as chair
Nomination for chair—Michelle nominated Miranda Hyland for chair
  Vote—approved.
Nomination for vice-chair—Robin nominated Michelle Garey.
  Vote—approved
Nomination for secretary—Michelle nominated Elainie Conz.
  Vote—approved
  Mark will be substitute secretary as needed through the June meeting.

Mark talked about enjoying hearing from staff and asked to hear from other staff in future meetings.

Director’s Report: Wright Adams noted he has interviewed for the part-time library program assistant youth services position. He gave an overview of the recent staff development day and employee awards. He also reported that staff has submitted a letter of intent for the bookmobile grant and we have been invited to apply for the full grant. A submission has also been made for a Blanton grant for a proposed
teen center with the hope of receiving a response by mid to late January 2022. The Makerspace is now complete and a ribbon cutting is planned for late January/early February. The seed library, in partnership with the Cleveland County Cooperative Extension Service of Cleveland County, is going well. Upcoming programs include an Introduction to wood-burning and DIY holiday card programs. He also briefly highlighted partnerships, including the NC Works program, a job fair, Cleveland Community College and workforce development.

Mr. Adams next brought up the proposed Rules of Use changes. Several questions and comments from Advisory Board members were shared and Maggie Hahne asked if patrons would have to sign anything. Mr. Adams noted they would not but copies of the Rules of Use will be prominently posted in several places around the library.

Upon a motion by Robin Brackett and a second from Elainie Conz, the revised Rules were adopted. A motion was made.

Staff reports

Sarah Edmonds (Adult Services Manager) highlighted current and upcoming programs including the program, seed library, programs in spring, the Holiday Farmer’s market with Brittany making ornaments, an author talk about Shelby’s Sunset Cemetery and an upcoming NC authors fair (February).

Other items of interest included programs for teens to make battery powered cars, storytimes for Pre-K and elementary students, building a stuffed animal, NASA ambassadors as well as Spangler Branch programs for all ages.

Sam Woolhisier (Outreach and Community Engagement Manager) reported on the storytime program held at Cleveland Mall for toddlers/Pre-K, programs for kids and adults at Holly Oak Park, steam pom pom animals, book club at park, in library to earn to knit program twice monthly in makerspace,

Meghan Blackburn (Technical Services Manager) discussed Gale analytics and a student worker who is assisting with various activities.

Old business: there was no old business.

In other comments, Mark noted the recent staff development day was awesome in terms of organization and for the portion he was able to attend. Asst. County Manager Kerri Melton had a very informative talk highlighting the county’s growth and on-going efforts to recruit and retain excellent employees. He closed by expressing how proud he is of our library and its staff.

From Advisory Board members, it was suggested we use name cards so that everyone can learn who each is since there are several new members.

The next Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2022 at 2:30 PM.

Happy holidays!

Respectfully submitted, Meghan Blackburn