

Alva Public Library

504 7th Street, Alva, OK (580) 327-1833

The Alva Public Library Board met at 3:45pm on September 14th, 2020 in the Alva Public Library Auditorium. Members present were: Chairman Mrs. Lynn Wilt, Ms. Linda Joseph, Ms. Marilyn Clyne, Mrs. Patty Harkin, Mrs. April Ridgway, Mr. Len Reed and Council Representative Chris Eckhardt.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Wilt. Mr. Reed made a motion that the August 3rd, 2020 minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Representative Eckhardt. Those voting in favor of the motion: Ms. Clyne, Mrs. Harkin, Mrs. Ridgway, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Reed, Representative Eckhardt and Chairman Wilt.

Library data and Financial Report

The library data was presented by Library Director Sandra Ott. Director Ott passed out the financial reports for August. The board discussed the financial and statistical reports. In the month of August 997 items were checked out from the library in house collection. 768 e-books and audiobooks were checked out. 259 items were added to the collection and 456 items were deselected due to lack of circulation, out dated information or age. Those materials deselected for outdated information were identified and new materials with current information will be added to the collection to replace them.

Council Report

City Council Representative Eckhardt informed the Board that the City Council had been busy with a variety of things including approving a Resource Officer for the schools, CARES funding, the Oath of office for the New Fire Chief, Enhancement FAA Grants for the Airport and other city business, The street repairs are ongoing. The Swimming Pool Task Force provided tours for the public and the next step is to get an engineering report to find out what options are available for the pool.

Library Report

Director Ott told the board that the library staff would like to move forward in going fine free. The city attorney after reviewing the request felt that it was not an issue to be brought before the City Council. The Library Board had already discussed in previous meetings the new policy regarding no fines and the steps if materials are not returned. The motion to change the policy was made by Mr. Reed and seconded by Representative Eckhardt.

The board vote was unanimous in support of going fine free. Director Ott stated that the process worked well while the library was closed due to COVID concerns and the staff had continued the process with the partial opening of the library. DVD checkouts are now extended to two weeks.

Director Ott told the board that she has been exploring several options regarding allowing the public access to the stacks. The next step would be opening the first floor to browsing of the stacks. There would be no seating available and a limited amount of people would be allowed in at a time and time would be limited. One of the main concerns is being able to disinfect the area and the time it would take the staff to be continually cleaning. She is in touch with other libraries across the state regarding how they are addressing the issue in their individual communities. The number of COVID cases in the library service area will determine when any decisions are made.

The Little Explorers weekly activity bags continue to be popular. The library staff is developing and putting together monthly bags for school age children. This will take the place of the traditional After School programs that were held for Kindergarten through 6th grade students. The first bags will be available the week of September 21st.

Director's Report

The library is looking at ways to fund the ILL program. It is free if the library loans out 100 books a year and requests 60 books. If that minimum is not met the service could be lost. One option is to fund it like any other digital service. Funds are available through the libraries subscription line item.

Director Ott Hamilton informed the board that one of the staff computers has a failing hard drive. The computer is the oldest staff computer and was going to be replaced next year. The decision was made to purchase a new computer as the replacement of the hard drive was 50% of the cost of a new model.

Board Member and Visitor comments

There were no comments from the library board members and the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lynn Wilt.