

Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board Agenda
Z.J. Loussac Library
Board Room, 4th Floor
March 20, 2019
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

x	Barbara Jacobs	Nancy Hemsath, Chair
	Cristy A. Willer, Secretary	Lucy Flynn O'Quinn
	Jamie Lang	Sarah Switzer
	Jonathan Bittner	Wei Cheng
	Lo Crawford	

X=Present, E=Excused, PH=Phone

TOPIC	Leader	Time	Action
Call To Order			
Person (s) to be Heard		1 min	
Consent Agenda, March 20, 2019	Chair	1 min	Vote to Approve
Approval of Minutes – Jan 16, 2019; Feb 20, 2019 Minutes	Chair	3 min	Vote to Approve
Mission Moment: YS STEM and review 2018 accomplishments	Nicolai	15 min	
Webinair: Fundamentals of Library Advocacy. Discussion of Future Webinars	Chair	70 min	
Staff Updates Director Report Bond discussion	Director	10 min	Discussion
Next Board Meeting • April 17, 2019, 5:30-7, Alden Todd Board Room			
Board Comments and Adjourn			

**Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board
Minutes**

Date: January 16, 2019	Location: Z.J.Loussac Library
------------------------	-------------------------------

Board Members				Staff
X	Nancy Hemsath, Chair	X	Jonathan Bittner	Mary Jo Torgeson, Director
X	Jamie Lang, Vice Chair	EX	Sarah Switzer	
EX	Cristy A. Willer, Secretary	EX	Wei Cheng	
X	Barbara Jacobs	X	Lucy Flynn O'Quinn	Guests
X	Lourdes Linato-Crawford			Clare Ross

Retreat.	Information / Findings / Conclusions / Recommendations	
Call to Order	5:30 p.m.	
Person to be heard	None.	
Mission Moment	None.	
Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda approved as amended to include discussion of meeting locations. (Lucy/Barb). Minutes of 12.12.18 approved as amended to change David's last name to Adkins-Brown and adjournment by Lucy and Wei (Lo, Jamie). 	
Discussion/ Action Items	Discussion	Action
	<p>1. <u>Program Policy Review</u>. Muni Law Dept added Title V, ADA access language; anti-discrimination language for contractors.</p> <p>2. <u>Strategic Plan 2019-2021</u>. Recap by Clare Ross. Updates: page numbers, photo shoot happened but not selected, request typo changed from "Assemble" to "assembly" on p. 9.</p> <p>3. <u>Director's report</u> (attached).</p> <p>4. <u>Discussion</u> about how to get more kids reading.</p> <p>5. <u>2019 schedule</u>:</p> <p>2/19 Loussac (board orientation)</p> <p>3/19 Loussac (YS & STEM kit)</p> <p>4/19 Loussac (Overdrive digital training)</p> <p>5/19 Mt View (Libraries Mean Business)</p> <p>6/19 Girdwood</p> <p>7/19 no meeting</p> <p>8/19 Chugiak/Eagle River</p> <p>9/19 Muldoon</p> <p>10/19 Loussac (Michael Stallins: Consortium)</p> <p>11/19 Loussac</p> <p>12/19 Loussac</p> <p>6. <u>All-Board Retreat</u> 1/26, 9-12:30, Ann Stevens Room.</p>	<p>1. Approved (Lo, Jamie)</p> <p>2. Approve "Lens" verbiage but reserve right for LAB to approve layout at another meeting (Jon/Lo).</p>
Comments	All three Board presidents met in December!	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned: 7:01 (Barb/Lucy)	
Next Meeting	Location: Loussac Date: February 20, 2019	

**Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board
Minutes**

Date: February 20, 2019	Location: Z.J.Loussac Library
-------------------------	-------------------------------

Board Members				Staff
X	Nancy Hemsath, Chair	EX	Jonathan Bittner	Mary Jo Torgeson, Director
X	Jamie Lang, Vice Chair	X	Sarah Switzer	
X	Cristy A. Willer, Secretary	X	Wei Cheng	
X	Barbara Jacobs	X	Lucy Flynn O'Quinn	Guests
X	Lourdes Linato-Crawford			

Retreat.	Information / Findings / Conclusions / Recommendations	
Call to Order	5:37 p.m.	
Person to be heard	None.	
Mission Moment	None.	
Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda approved (Lucy/Wei). Minutes of 1/16/19 tabled until next meeting due to technical difficulties (Lucy, Jamie). 	
Discussion/ Action Items	Discussion	Action
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Board orientation</u>. Mary Jo led the board through APL Policies 2019. Some policies will undergo further reviews by staff, then referred to LAB. <u>Reconsideration Form</u>. Discussion re: necessity for library card, distribution procedure of Request. <u>Strategic Plan</u>. Standardize "library" & "Library", attribute quotes on p.10, add date of approval on blue page, change spelling of "Jon." Any alternative to "stuff" on p. 5? <u>Director's Report</u> (attached). Mary Jo is recruiting for Ass't Director and Adult Services. <u>Beyond the Stacks</u>. April 6, 5:30, Marriott. Nancy will buy a table and send LAB links to reserve seats @ \$75. <u>Advocacy Committee</u> is needed to lead effort to advocate for Library (support the bond issue); 2 people from each of the 3 boards. Jon, Jamie and maybe Barbara from LAB will attend. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Jo will bring back with clarifications. Staff will make changes; bring back to LAB for approval.
Comments	Jamie reported overhearing "My audiobook just arrived!!"; Sarah's friend raved about the drag queen reading group; Lo was excited about the Eyak Revitalization project.	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned: 7:25(Lucy/Lo)	
Next Meeting	Location: Loussac Date: March 20, 2019 Barb asked to be Excused.	

Education Stats, Patron Comments, Community Reports
Gathered for the Strategic Plan committee – Anchorage Public Library

Elizabeth Nicolai, October 2018

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS: Less than half our students in Anchorage are able to read on grade level by fourth grade. (Numbers vary depending which test we are looking at.) Less than half our children enter kindergarten with the necessary language skills to learn to read.

In general I focused only on literacy/english language arts. Though math numbers are also atrocious. I also focused primarily on elementary (part one) and early literacy (part two) though high school graduation rates continue to be an issue. The library is best suited to help with early measures rather than the high needs remedial issues in secondary years.

Part One: Elementary Reading:

Alaska fourth graders rank dead last nationally in reading.

<http://www.ktva.com/story/39189738/alaska-fourth-graders-rank-dead-last-nationally-in-reading>

In 2017 on the NAEP reading assessment, Alaskan fourth graders who performed at or above proficient level was 28% (not significantly different than 2015 at 30% of 2003 at 28%). Please see attached full report.

2018 PEAKS (performance evaluation for Alaska's Schools) results

<https://education.alaska.gov/tls/Assessments/AsmtVer2018/StatewideOverview.cfm?Test=PEAKS>

English Language Arts results (These numbers did not vary hugely from 2017)

Grade	Statewide		Anchorage School District	
	Advanced or proficient	Below proficient	Advanced or proficient	Below proficient
All grades	42.37%	57.63%	45.64%	54.36%
Grade 3	37.40%	32.60%	40.15%	59.85%
Grade 4	42.25%	57.75%	43.95%	56.05%
Grade 5	41.06%	58.94%	44.34%	55.66%
Grade 6	50.14%	49.82%	55.91%	44.09%
Grade 7	47.33%	52.67%	51.02%	48.98%
Grade 8	45.12%	54.88%	48.58%	51.42%
Grade 9	32.99%	67.01%	35.34%	64.66%

Grade Four Peaks Results for Anchorage Schools for English Language Arts:

Count and Percentage of Students by Achievement Level

Grade 4					
Subject	Advanced/Proficient	Below Proficient/Far Below Proficient	Enrollment	Participation Rate	
	Count / Percentage ¹	Count / Percentage ¹			
English Language Arts	1,598 / 43.95%	2,038 / 56.05%	3724	97.64%	Groups
Mathematics	1,914 / 52.35%	1,742 / 47.65%	3732	98.18%	Groups

Results by Subgroups

Grade 4					
English Language Arts	Advanced/Proficient	Below Proficient/Far Below Proficient	Enrollment	Participation Rate	
	Count / Percentage ¹	Count / Percentage ¹			
Race/Ethnicity					
African American	54 / 27.27%	144 / 72.73%	203	97.54%	
Alaska Native/American Indian	73 / 21.73%	263 / 78.27%	346	97.11%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	149 / 25.73%	430 / 74.27%	589	98.30%	
Caucasian	939 / 61.86%	579 / 38.14%	1557	97.50%	
Hispanic	160 / 36.78%	275 / 63.22%	442	98.42%	
Two or More Races	223 / 39.12%	347 / 60.88%	587	97.10%	
Gender					
Male	785 / 41.29%	1,116 / 58.71%	1952	97.39%	
Female	813 / 46.86%	922 / 53.14%	1772	97.91%	
Special Populations					
Students With Disabilities	56 / 11.69%	423 / 88.31%	503	95.23%	
Disabled With Accommodations	32 / 7.39%	401 / 92.61%	N/A	N/A	
Students Without Disabilities	1,542 / 48.84%	1,615 / 51.16%	3221	98.01%	
Limited English Proficient	156 / 20.55%	603 / 79.45%	771	98.44%	
Not Limited English Proficient	1,442 / 50.12%	1,435 / 49.88%	2953	97.43%	
Economically Disadvantaged	578 / 28.50%	1,450 / 71.50%	2076	97.69%	
Not Economically Disadvantaged	1,020 / 63.43%	588 / 36.57%	1648	97.57%	
Migrant Students	91 / 32.50%	189 / 67.50%	287	97.56%	
Not Migrant Students	1,507 / 44.90%	1,849 / 55.10%	3437	97.64%	
Active Duty Parent/Guardian	208 / 56.99%	157 / 43.01%	368	99.18%	
Not Active Duty Parent/Guardian	1,390 / 42.49%	1,881 / 57.51%	3356	97.47%	
Homeless	21 / 15.00%	119 / 85.00%	146	95.89%	
Not Homeless	1,577 / 45.11%	1,919 / 54.89%	3578	97.71%	
Foster Care	6 / 16.67%	30 / 83.33%	38	94.74%	
Not Foster Care	1,592 / 44.22%	2,008 / 55.78%	3686	97.67%	

** Results cannot be published without releasing personally identifiable information.*

¹ The percentage of students at each achievement level only includes students who participated in the content assessment.

Part Two: Kindergarten Readiness

The Alaska Developmental Profile is used to measure a child's readiness for school and usually given the first week or two of kindergarten. Results page here: <https://education.alaska.gov/assessments/results>

The Alaska Developmental Profile has 13 goals and students are measured as consistently demonstrating specific goals. For the library's purposes I have focused on Domain 5: Communication, Language and Literacy.

(These are the numbers of children who consistently demonstrate these things)

Goal	Statewide	Anchorage
9: Uses receptive communication skills	56.0%	50.2%
10: Uses expressive communication skills	51.7%	46.9%
11: Demonstrates phonological awareness	39.2%	35.9%
12: Demonstrates awareness of print concepts	43.8%	43.6%
13: Demonstrates knowledge of letters and symbols (alphabet knowledge)	45.5%	42.6%
<i>All 13 goals</i>	<i>17.6%</i>	<i>15.7%</i>
<i>At least 11 of the 13 goals</i>	<i>30.4%</i>	<i>26.8%</i>

Part Three: Some Patron comments

A selection of representative comments from the patron surveys

7% of people chose "diverse educational opportunities" as a thing to value in Anchorage

Issues facing our community:

Education came up almost 400 times. 88% of the time as Issue 1, 74% of the time for issue 2,

Common words that came up with education were "lack of support", "lack of funding", "cuts to education", and early education.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

February, 2019

Loussac Building: We have received computer tables/chairs (Foundation dollars) and are awaiting new reference desks to arrive in the summer. Once those have arrived, we will move all of the computers and information desk to the new area of the library. The next project will be to remove many of the carrels and finally, move the AK Collection.

Collection Development

- Technical Services processed 4800 new items.
- CMS ordered additional business materials to support our business grant.
- CMS staff provided adult services training on weeding collections.

Branches:

Eagle River:

- Branch Manager attended 2 community ASD forums to discuss the community surveys regarding the school closures for next school year. She made contact with the principals of the affected schools to offer support in any way appropriate.
- A newer attendee of the romance book club remarked on how much more broadly she is reading now that she has book recommendations suited to her taste and she drives in from South Anchorage for this monthly Romance Book Discussion Group event.

Muldoon

- People Mover was at Muldoon to hear from the Eastside about the changes made to bus service last year. Many Muldoon regulars came to share their perceptions.
- YS Librarian Kristin visited five outside schools and daycares, presenting to 12 storytime classes, 258 preschool children, their teachers, and families.
- We added our first Saturday Family Storytime (all ages) in February, catering to working families who are not able to attend weekday storytimes with their children. Our first program had 18 kids and caregivers!

Mountain View:

- Tundra Vision had 130 people in attendance that we were able to count. Due to a lack of seating, some people left before we could count all of them.
- Teresa Churchel has taken the lead at Mt View in rolling out Passport services, creating the infrastructure and communicating with all staff about this new service.
- We have seen a lot of interest in our Drive In Movie program where kids can come and create their own cars, planes, and other vehicles followed by a movie. This program elicits participant imagination through building and then lets them use their inventions as a safe place to watch movies, snack...and sometimes nap when play gets to be too much.
- A regular patron came in with a bruised face and indicated to staff that she was in an abusive relationship. The Branch Manager referred her to appropriate services to domestic abuse victims and also referred her to our Community Resource Coordinator. Patron came back two weeks later and informed us that she used the referrals and said she now feels confident that she can move to a safe living situation and has also had the courage to file for a divorce and confront her abuser about hitting her. She has support and feels safe because of the family she has here at the library.



Kids relax in their vehicles while watching a movie at Mt. View

Girdwood:

- Claire was invited by the Girdwood- K-8 Librarian to do some outreach and give tutorials on certain databases.
- Baby Time continues to be a worthwhile program for parents and caregivers in our valley. An average of 16 people come every week to bounce, tickle, read, and socialize with their babies and neighbors.
- February circulation increased by 40%, when comparing the same month in 2017



Community Relations

- Staff coordinated the efforts of our Business Fellow for the Anchorline Podcast “Libraries Mean Business”, as part of our statewide grant for promoting Library business resources. We received over 150,000 on-air impressions during our 4 week campaign on 650 KENI. We had statewide reach thru the iHeartRadio app and highlighted our partnership with the Alaska SBDC, SBA and Alaska Native Professionals Group. All 4 episodes are now linked from the APL Business resources page at <http://bit.ly/APLBusiness>

- We ran a social media contest for patrons visiting Marc our “Selfie Snowman”



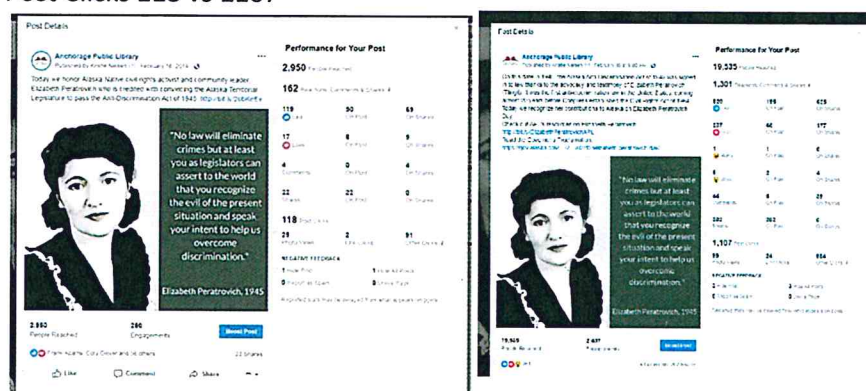
• Social Media Case Study

This is a cool example of how our intentionality on social media over the last year has paid off. We’ve not only grown our audience; we’ve worked hard to get them to engage with us. This post is basically the same content posted on the same date, 1 year apart.

People Reached 2,950 vs 19,535

Reactions, Comments, Shares 162 vs 1301

Post Clicks 118 vs 1107



• iHeartMedia

Brian Ross on Magic 98.9. Continues to promote library core services with an emphasis on audio books. We continue to hear from the community that they “never knew they could get audio books from the library”. In January and February we have seen YOY growth in digital downloads through the Alaska Digital Library. Check out Brian’s 2nd blog at <http://bit.ly/BrianRossLibbyBlog>.

	Jan 18	Feb 18	Jan 19	Feb 19
Alaska Digital Library (check-outs)	11,424	10,155	15,513	13,934
EAudioBook	4,941	4,560	7,212	6,587
EMusic	0	0	0	0
EBook	6,483	5,595	8,301	7,347

Long Term Planning/development/Foundation/Friends

- **Legacy Giving:** the Library Foundation put out an RFP for a consultant to help us design a legacy giving program. We’ll select the winner later this month.
- **Budget/Advocacy:** Clare and MJ will work with Jon Bittner to set up a work session in mid-April for the delegates from each board to better prepare our 10 year plan for future asks and prepare for state budget cut ramifications for 2020.
- **Alaska Room:** Library/MOA will engage a firm to do a space plan for the new Alaska Room. This will help us with our logistics this year and also is the first step for creating a capital campaign for a future renovatio

- **Proposition 3:** Girdwood, Mountain View and Loussac on Prop 3 on municipal election. More info at www.LibraryChampion.com/Projects/Prop3
- **Muldoon Library:** finalizing date and agenda with Cook Inlet Housing Authority to do a brainstorming session regarding potential for a project on their property – likely the week of 3/11. We'll want a LAB member to attend. Created our vision for a new location.

Youth Services

Events:

- Drag Storytime – 400 people attended the two performances, including 267 at the family and children's show and 131 people at the adult and teen show. There were about 3 protestors against the program and around 20 protestors for the program. The remarks from people attending the program were uniformly positive.
- Partnership programs: American Sign Language teen class with Hope Community Resources, Cooperative Extension Science evening school age program
- Stuffed Animal Sleepover – Kelsey and Linda again hosted this program where children dropped off their stuffie for a night at the library.
- Once upon a tea time princess party – this event (a partnership with Princesses of Alaska) went viral on facebook with almost 700 responses. About 150 people showed up to drink some tea (lemonade), have some crackers, make some crafts, and meet the princesses. We took over the second floor living room and it worked perfectly.
- Teen recurring programs: Magic the Gathering, Pokemon, Teen Underground Task Force, Teen Writing Society, Teen Open Mic Night
- Poetry Out Loud – once again we hosted this event with the Alaska State Council of the Arts and Jon was a judge
- Chapter Book Readaloud – Linda has started offering these on Saturdays to appeal to families and school age kids. She reads a short chapter book while the attendees do a small project. This month was J. K. Rowling's *Tales of Beedle the Bard* which brought in 26 Harry Potter fans to drink warm butter beer and enjoy the book.
- Alaskan Author Storytime featuring two local authors with premiere picture books, Brooke Hartman and Matthew Lasley. Both books are from Alaska Northwest/West Margin Press
- Outreach: Linda Klein presented to 30 teachers at the Cook Inlet Council mini conference on literacy.
- Tours: Anchorage Christian School came in to learn about research with fourth and fifth graders, Pacific Northern Academy brought in fifth graders who had been working on brain development to do a mini science fair for storytime parents, Seeds of Change (a group working with at risk teens) had tour for 42 people included some electronic resources like Learning Express

Ready to Read Resource Center (RRRC):

- Presented session at AAEEYC on February 8 about dramatic play and its connection to early literacy. 45 attendees. 22 surveys received.
 - Of those surveyed, 55% reported an increase in their knowledge of early literacy; 59% reported an increase in their appreciation for early literacy; 86% rated the presentation overall as "very high" or "high"
- Prepared 3 sessions for AKLA
 - Early Literacy Spaces @ Your Small Library
 - Bibliotherapy for Preschoolers: Using Books to Help
 - Supercharged Storytimes for All Wrap-Up
- Presented live session for Modules 5 and 6 for second cohort of Supercharged Storytimes for All
- Submitted March book recommendations for the column in Best Beginning's new newsletter.

Adult Services

- Interviews began for the Alaska Librarian position. We had eighteen candidates, interviewed fifteen of them, and narrowed the selection down to three. A selection has been made.
- Staff are developing a training for the Foundation Directory for local non-profits through the Foraker Group. This is a new database and we are the only location that is currently providing it.
- Staff Sarah was part of a panel representing APL at AkLA as part of Earthquake Debrief panel with other Anchorage librarians.
- 35 programs in February 2019, with 711 participants. In February 2018 we had 42 programs with 590 participants.

**Preserve the Past and Invest in the Future - Vote Yes on Prop 3 for
Senior Centers, Libraries, and More!
Request Submitted to Commentary at ADN**

In the upcoming municipal election, there is a small, but significant bond measure that rehabilitates nine essential municipal facilities. At just \$5.5M, Proposition 3 repairs and upgrades the Anchorage Senior Activity Center, Chugiak Senior Center, Anchorage Memorial Cemetery, West High Pool, several municipal-owned buildings, and the Mountain View, Girdwood, and Loussac Libraries.

These facilities have served us well. We must fulfill our obligation to maintain them so that they can continue to serve us and the next generation.

Buildings can last a long time with proper maintenance, and the appropriate health and safety upgrades. As tax payers we want to reduce the cost to the Municipality to make this relatively modest investment now rather than a larger expense in the long-term. Delaying these repairs will negatively affect services now and require significant additional costs in the future. As we experience with our own homes and businesses, reduced maintenance now means higher costs later.

When you get your ballot in the mail, look for **Proposition 3**, titled “AREAWIDE FACILITIES CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BONDS,” and vote yes to ensure that our public facilities are safe and operational for the thousands of people who use them every day.

Ballots will be mailed March 12 and may be returned to a secure drop box, an Accessible Vote Center, or mailed with a first class stamp. Additional instructions will be included with the ballot and can be found at www.muni.org/VotebyMail. Ballots are due by April 2, 2019.

Anchorage Senior Center

- A 36-year-old building, it needs to replace its’ leaky roof, upgrade restrooms to be ADA compliant, complete carpeting, and expand the garage to provide a safe place to work on vehicles.

Anchorage Public Library

- **Loussac Library:** upgrades and safety repairs to the four original elevators from 1986.
- **Mountain View Library:** building safety upgrades, including outdoor patio and security camera updates.
- **Girdwood Library:** building system repairs and updates, including the heating and ventilation (HVAC) system.

Municipal Owned Buildings

- West High Pool LED lighting energy efficiency upgrade.
- Fleet Maintenance building code upgrades.
- Porcupine Building (Mountain View) roof replacement.

Chugiak Senior Center

- Replace flooring in the administrative and assisted living areas, repair/resurface the parking lot to include paving the gravel lot, and construct covered carports to address safety hazards to residents.

Anchorage Memorial Cemetery

Repairs and renovations needed to preserve this 104-year-old historic site and provide a positive, serene and dignified place for all: repair fencing and entry gates, repair damaged columbarium wall and seating areas, repair and renovate cemetery facilities, grounds and infrastructure, and renovate and recast overgrown lawn markers.

These facilities are well loved and they can serve our community for many years if we care for and invest in them. As fellow tax payers, we ask you to vote for Prop 3 to preserve these assets for today and for future generations.

Gordon Glaser, Anchorage Senior Activity Center Board President

Nancy Hemsath, Anchorage Public Library Advisory Board Chair

Kim Hays, Anchorage Library Foundation President

Mary Rasmussen, Friends of the Library President

The individuals listed above are speaking and acting as individuals and not on behalf of the Municipality or on behalf the municipal boards and commissions.

-30-

Submitted by Nancy Hemsath. Cell 230-0641