

Municipality of Anchorage  
Library Advisory Board Agenda  
Z.J. Loussac Library  
Board Room, 4th Floor  
April 17, 2019  
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

	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		3 min	
	Consent Agenda, April 17, 2019	Chair	2 min	Vote to Approve
	Overdrive and Downloadable Review		30 min	Information
	Approval of Minutes –March 20 Minutes	Chair	2 min	Vote to Approve
	Discussion of Loss of Proposition 3	Torgeson	10 min	Discussion
	Discussion of Presentation of Strategic Plan to Assembly	Torgeson	10 min	Discussion
	Request for Reconsideration Form	Director	10 min	Vote to Approve
	Staff Updates Director Report	Director	15 min	Discussion
	Next Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 15, 2019, 5:30-7, Mt View Library Community Room, 120 Bragaw St</li> </ul>			
	Board Comments and Adjourn			

**Municipality of Anchorage  
Library Advisory Board  
Minutes**

Date: March 20, 2019	Location: Z.J.Loussac Library
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Board Members				Staff
X	Nancy Hemsath, Chair	X	Jonathan Bittner	Mary Jo Torgeson, Director
X	Jamie Lang, Vice Chair	X	Sarah Switzer	Elizabeth Nicolai, Youth Serv. Coord.
X	Cristy A. Willer, Secretary	EX	Wei Cheng	
EX	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	Elizabeth Nicolai, Youth Services Coordinator, described the Youth STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) project, which will provide a variety of activities and presentations for kids this summer.	
Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agenda approved (Lucy/Jamie).</li> <li>Minutes of 1/16/19 and 2/20/20 approved (Lucy, Lo).</li> </ul>	
Discussion/ Action Items	Discussion	Action
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Fundamentals of Library Advocacy" (Patrick Sweeney) was viewed by the board: message was that it's librarians that draws people to libraries and engage in their support.</li> <li>Bond discussion followed re: having a concerted effort with 3 boards to support the library bonds. Lucy suggested adding librarians' pictures on the website; MJ said she'd look into it but that privacy issues are a problem (Included handout).</li> <li>Director's report (attached).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MJ will get the link to other webinars in this series.</li> <li>Jamie, Lucy and Jim will meet in a work session in mid April re advocacy.</li> <li>There will be training on digital resources on 4/17. (Online scavenger hunt created by Lucy?)</li> </ol>
Comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jamie overheard someone appreciating the "Drag queen storytime" at Polaris.</li> <li>A humanist objected to Bible Stories at storytime.</li> <li>Events are not getting posted on the website.</li> <li>Beyond Stacks will be 4/6 at the Marriott.</li> </ol>	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned: 7:28 (Lucy/Jon).	
Next Meeting	Location: Alden Todd Board Room Date: April 17, 2019	

# LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## March, 2019

Loussac Building Updates: The tile has been shipped from New Jersey and installation dates are unknown.

Bond: Proposition 3 lost by 4231 votes, or 46% no. The wording was the same as the previous year (which passed). The Senior Center staff felt that the loss might have been due to the ballot verbage not highlighting any facility.

### Collection Management Services (CMS)

- CMS provided Youth Service grant funds to order multiple system copies of the Battle books
- We negotiated Freegal renewal at the same price as previous year.
- We are working on a pilot project at Loussac to purchase multiple copies of hot titles/series (think Harry Potter) in paperback and unprocessed (will be lightly processed in house) in order to meet demand over the summer and be able to discard as needed.
- We received a challenge for Smokey by Bill Peet for racist images of Native peoples and a committee has been formed. They determined to remove the book. (Memo included to remove the title)
- Staff are working on a huge project of putting RFID Stingray tags on the feature DVDs. They have applied over 5,000 stingrays since the project began.

### Staffing:

- Several staff won city wide employee awards: Clare Ross received executive employee of the year and Jacob Cole was awarded supervisor of the year. Kate from Patron Services was also nominated for Employee of the year. In addition, several teams were nominated for their response to the earthquake, including Youth Service department and the Mountain View Library staff.
- Jacob Cole has been selected as the new Assistant Director and we are recruiting for a new IT Patron Services Coordinator.
- Sarah Preskitt accepted the Alaska Librarian position. Sarah has done a variety of jobs with APL, including interim branch manager, and as a reference librarian. She has spearheaded initiatives including the Community Resource Coordinator and the Bikemobile.

### Branches

#### **Muldoon:**

- A family came in for passports and the father wrote on a comment card, "Our family visited the Muldoon branch APL for the purpose of apply for (3) children's passports. The process was swift, and the service was stellar! Dino did a great job with receiving our applications, and Jim took extra time to help my daughter with opening a library account. While this was our 1<sup>st</sup> experience at this library, we will be regulars now thanks to their service and professionalism."
- Branch Manager attended a two-day training: Nonviolent Crisis Intervention. The course teaches crisis prevention techniques and de-escalation to aid increasing care, welfare, safety, and security. The course emphasized practical methods—verbal and physical—when working with high-risk populations. In fact, within an hour of returning to Muldoon from training he found himself applying the skills taught, and was able to de-escalate a difficult situation.

#### **Eagle River:**

- We had 38 attendees for the Henry Fountain event, the largest we've had for an adult program. We received feedback from more than one person that the CER community appreciates and values author events at this location rather than having to drive into town whenever an author
- Branch Manager was guest presenter for a disaster preparedness class in the Library & Information Management program at Emporia State (Kansas).



### Mountain View:

- PBS partnership Ruff Ruffman Family Workshop has been seeing the same families come to the program with 13 people attending. They are really excited to have a family learning event where parents are learning alongside kids. See picture below.
- Ballot Box Bash, a neighborhood event to highlight voting, saw 75 people attend. We also ended up with news coverage from two different news groups show up. Amazing coverage and kids are getting involved too!
- The Drive-In movies MV has been going for 3 months and is going great. The program is attended by new families that have not come to the MV branch before. We will continue this fun, interactive program into the summer.

### Girdwood:

- March 2019 program attendance more than doubled from March of 2017. Correspondingly, there is also a circulation increase of 47% between March, 2017 and March 2019.
- Another taste test during spring break, see picture below

### Community Relations

- We heavily promoted the following special events: Henry Fountain- both Loussac and Eagle River events and Earthquake Escape Rooms (3 locations)
- Nesvick was a guest on a [Library Marketing Podcast "Library Figures"](#)

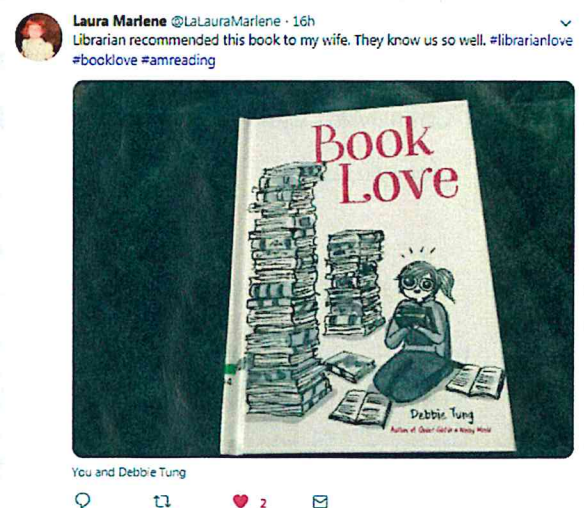
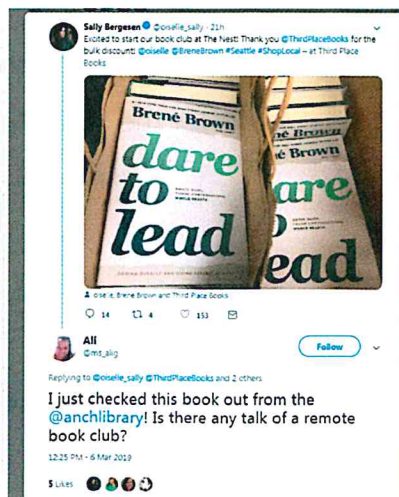
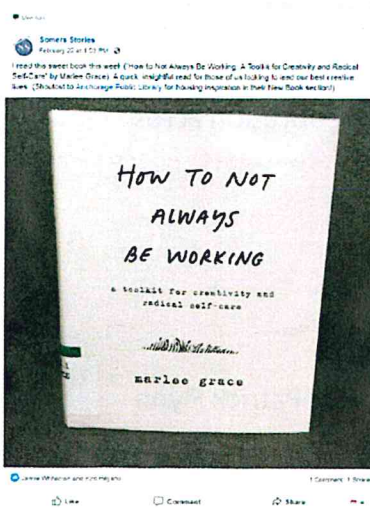
### Social Media Highlight

March was a great month for patrons highlighting our collection across social media. Books. They're still a thing.

**Facebook:** "I read this sweet book this week ("How to Not Always Be Working: A Toolkit for Creativity and Radical Self-Care" by Marlee Grace) A quick, insightful read for those of us looking to lead our best creative lives. (Shout out to Anchorage Public Library for housing inspiration in their New Book section)

**Twitter:** "I just checked this book out from the @ancholibrary!"

**Instagram:** "Librarian recommended this bok to my wife. They know us so well. #librarianlove #booklove #amreading"



### iHeartMedia

Brian Ross on Magic 98.9 wrapped up his endorsement of the library with a focus on Lynda.com. Check out Brian's bonus blog at <http://bit.ly/BrianRossLyndaBlog> and audio attached.

### Library Long term planning and development/Foundation/Friends

- **Downtown Library:** Sarah Switzer, LAB Board member, was added to our exploratory committee; met with JJ Brooks, developer of the Rustic Goat, to talk about a possible project downtown – waiting to hear back; committee will meet with the Chang Family (owner of Key Bank Building) in late April to hear their latest plans. Put together a vision for a pop-up library – waiting for committee and staff feedback.
- **Strategic Plan:** staff are getting a lot done on our internal improvements work plan – new internal communications plan, kicking-off a training series for supervisors, new program assessment and partnership application, and more. Final plan is posted at: <http://www.anchoragelibrary.org/about/about-apl/strategic-plan/> We'll work on external promotion next.
- **Muldoon Library:** Beginning stages of talking to a potential developer about a project to bring in Library, CITC and STREAM ASD Academy into a potential project. Lo Linato-Crawford represented LAB. We came up with some rough site plans and partnership vision.
- **Budget/Advocacy:** Library Foundation created Alaska Library Champions on Facebook. Scheduling an advocacy work session with the three boards in late April/early May.
- **Library Foundation:** enlisted Foraker Group to help put a legacy giving plan together this year.
- **Friends Beyond the stacks:** grossed \$67,392, \$3K more than the previous year.

### Youth Services

- Special Events:
  - Alaska Reads Day; Saturday 3/2. Held programs all day for the second annual event including a Dr. Seuss storytime and build-a-book workshop
  - Glow in the Dark Storytime, STEM storytime, & Wee Be Jammin Storytime
  - Spring Break daily events included art, movies, building, and science
  - In Partnership with Alaska Junior Theater, meet the cast and make a craft with Moon Mouse
  - Teens: Magic the Gathering, Teen Open Mic Night, been book march madness (Jon)
  - Volunteer Fridays is popular with 4 to 11 kids showing up for 2 hour shifts to volunteer
  - Partnered teen programs: Pokemon the Gathering the card game (Bosco's partnership), FAFSA sign up event (ACPE partnership), Magic the Gathering official teen tournament (Bosco's)
  - Science with cooperative extension/4H continues to bring in nearly 30 people in the evening hours. A great school age program
  - Family Literacy Night, evening storytime with Ready To Read
- Outreach:
  - presented sensory storytime to special needs preschoolers at Gladys Wood Elementary
  - Multiple school tours: Pacific Northern Academy, Denali Montessori Kindergarten and Anchorage Montessori
  - North Star Family Night (Kelsey)
  - In March, we did 67 events that were attended by 2,285 people.
  - Storytimes are the most popular (35 events & 1,696 people)
  - School age events, especially for Spring Break, are growing in popularity (11 events, 315 people)

### **Ready to Read Resource Center**

#### **Outreach/Presentations:**

- Presented 3 sessions at AK Library Association: Early Literacy Spaces @ Your Small Library, Bibliotherapy for Preschoolers and Supercharged Storytimes for All
- Staffed a table at the spring Baby Fair hosted by Alaska Birth Services on March 23 and spoke to 250+ parents/ caregivers about early literacy and the free kits available for checkout.



- Assisted with the March 30 Family Literacy Event hosted by the Anchorage Imagination Library at the Campbell Creek Science Center.

**Other:**

- Submitted Talk Story grant on behalf of the Anchorage Library Foundation to the American Indian Library Association
- Submitted April book recommendations for the column in Best Beginning's new newsletter

Adult Services

- We had a big spike on Lynda database usage from the promotions January-March. Going from 30+ hours viewed in December to 300+ hours each January-March. Anecdotally, at least three patrons mentioned learning about Lynda on the radio.
- Intern interviews were successful and our top choice has accepted the position for the summer marketing intern.
- 51 programs in March 2019, with 623 participants. In March 2018 we had 43 programs with 586 participants.
- "A donation of \$20 received from an North Carolina man who requested obituaries. Recently, an article request from the Anchorage Times from Anchor Point, AK (800# Ref Backup statistic) connected me to an old friend whom I worked with in 1980."



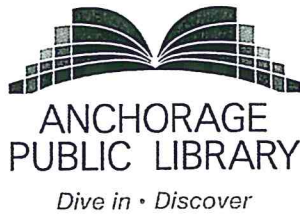
The Girdwood Goldfish Taste Test before the patrons descended.



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Olivia at the Family Ruff Ruffman program at MV w/Alaska Public Media





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April 12, 2019

Ms. Katie McKay Bryson  
2531 Northrup Place  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear Ms. McKay Bryson,

Thank you for taking the time to submit a "Statement of Concern about Library Materials" form for the picture book Smokey by Bill Peet. The Library values input from the community about our collections.

A committee of three librarians was convened to consider your request. After reading Smokey, we all agreed with your sentiment that the result of reading/viewing this work could 'perpetuate disrespectful ideas about Native people among non-Native people, make Native parents + kids hurt/embarrassed and possibly less comfortable at the library'. That is absolutely the last thing we want to do.

Anchorage Public Library welcomes all, we are here for everyone, and we strive to build and maintain collections which reflect our community. Thank you for participating in that process. We have decided to discard the two copies of the book held by the Library.

Please let your sister-in-law know we have many exceptional culturally appropriate materials, for all ages and in all formats, for Native people and the Library welcomes the opportunity to share those resources with our public. Thank you for supporting your public library.

Sincerely,

  
Laura S. Baldwin  
Collection Management Services Coordinator

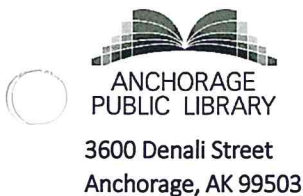
cc: Mary Jo Torgeson, Director  
Elizabeth Nicolai, Youth Services Coordinator

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Municipality Of Anchorage







## Request for Reconsideration

Please complete form and **return in person** to staff at any APL location

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Library card # \_\_\_\_\_

Do you represent: ☐ yourself ☐ an organization? (check one)

What type of material  
or service are you  
commenting on?

☐ Book

☐ Magazine

☐ Library Program

☐ Movie

☐ Music CD

☐ Display/Exhibit

☐ Newspaper

☐ Audiorecording

☐ Internet Resource/Site

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

What item/program/  
display/exhibit are you  
commenting on?

If commenting on an item, what is the title and author/performer/producer?

If commenting on a program/display/exhibit what is the title and date?

How did this title/event/  
display/program/exhibit  
come to your attention?

(Recommended by staff member, review, friend's recommendation, found on shelf, visit library, library calendar, publicity announcement, etc.)

Did you read or listen to  
the entire work, stay for  
the entire program, view  
the entire display? If not,  
which selection or part  
did you read or view?

What is it that you find  
objectionable? Please be  
specific; cite pages,  
excerpts, or scenes  
whenever possible.

What action would you  
like the library to take?

Staff use only:

Date rec'd \_\_\_\_\_

Staff initials \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your comments and attach additional pages as needed. A staff member will review this request and provide a written decision within 14 days. A written appeal of the staff decision may be presented to the Library Director within 14 days. The Library Director has 14 days to provide a written decision; a final appeal may be made in writing within 14 days to the Library Advisory Board, who will review the materials and supporting documentation and make a final decision. A written decision will be sent to the patron within two weeks of the discussion at the Board meeting.