Municipality of Anchorage

Library Advisory Board Agenda

Microsoft Teams Virtual & In-Person Meeting: October 20, 2021, 5:30 to 7 PM

Attendance	Member	
	Wei Cheng	
	Lo Crawford	
	Lucy Flynn O'Quinn	
	Nancy Hemsath	
	Barbara Jacobs	
	Jamie Lang, Chair	
	Alice Qannik Glenn	
	Sarah Switzer, Vice-Chair	
	Cristy A. Willer, Secretary	
	Teen Advisory Board Member (Vacant)	
X = Present, E = Excused, U = Unexcused, PH = Phone		

Agenda

Торіс	Leader	Time	Action
Call to Order	Sarah Switzer	5:30	
Land Acknowledgement	Sarah Switzer	5:30	
Roll Call and Check-In (currently reading)	Sarah Switzer	5:35	
Persons to Be Heard	TBD	5:40	
Approval of Agenda, Date	Sarah Switzer	5:45	
Approval of Minutes, Date	Sarah Switzer	5:50	
Mission Moment: Community Resource Staff	Rebecca Barker	6:05	
Director's Monthly Report	Judy Eledge	6:25	
Policy Updates: Group Study Room and Posting Policy	Judy Eledge	6:35	
Library Advisory Board Resolution	Sarah Switzer	6:45	
Board Comments and Adjourn	Sarah Switzer	6:55	

Municipality of Anchorage Library Advisory Board Minutes Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting: September 15, 2021, 5:30 PM

Attendance	Member	
Х	Wei Chang	
Х	Lo Crawford	
Х	Lucy Flynn O'Quinn	
Х	Nancy Hemsath	
Х	Barbara Jacobs	
Х	Jamie Lang, Chair	
E	Alice Qannik Glenn	
Х	Sarah Switzer, Vice-Chair	
Х	Cristy A. Willer, Secretary	
vacant	Teen Advisory Board Member	
X = Present, E = Excused, U = Unexcused, PH = Phone		

Staff Present

Elizabeth Nicolai, Judy Eledge

Call to Order

Jamie Lang called meeting to order @ 5:35.

Land Acknowledgement

Jamie Lang shared the Land Acknowledgement.

Person(s) to be Heard

None.

Approvals

Minutes of August 18, 2021 were approved (Lucy/Nancy); Agenda of 9/15/21 was approved.

Introduction of new Library Director appointee

Elizabeth Nicolai introduced Judy Eledge, who has recently been appointed by the Mayor but not yet confirmed by the Assembly, to be Library Director. Ms. Eledge visited the Mountain View branch library and discussed the success of the Book Giveaway project.

Mission Moment: Summer Discovery

Elizabeth Nicolai gave a presentation on the Summer Discovery program.

Policy Updates – (Lucy asked if these policies had been reviewed by the Muni Attorney. Elizabeth said that the changes were not substantive enough to warrant a legal review.)

- <u>Interlibrary Loan</u>. Discussion of policy changes will be tabled until we can view changes being proposed. *Action*: staff will provide markup copy to LAB at their October meeting.
- <u>Posting.</u> Discussion concerning this policy centered on the possibility of translating posted information for the benefit of our large immigrant population, and posting flyers describing services for homeless people. Ms. Eledge was concerned that these strategies would overwhelm an already busy staff. It was decided to table further discussion until procedures supporting the policy could be reviewed by LAB (Lucy/Barb). *Action*: staff will provide supporting procedures at the October meeting.
- <u>Group Tour.</u> Action: This policy was approved as amended (Lucy/Lo).
- <u>Material Donations</u>. *Action:* This policy was approved as amended (Nancy/Lucy).

Staff Updates

- Elizabeth Nicolai discussed the fact that the Library's old minivan needs to be replaced (there is no heat when the defroster is on, for example), so a different department has paid for a replacement vehicle.
- Judy Eledge discussed potential cuts to many departments, including the Library, possibly resulting in a 5% cut and the elimination of Sunday hours. The discussion included the fact that highest patron occupancy occurs during Sundays hours. Ms. Eledge said that the situation would get worse, and that no department wants to lose funding. *Action:* Elizabeth will provide LAB with patron-use statistics.

Board Comments and Adjourn

Sarah promoted an upcoming presentation at Out North regarding intellectual freedom and banned books. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 (Lucy/Cristy).

Next Meeting

October 20, 2021



Anchorage Public Library Director's Report, September 2021

Education & Skills for Life

Recent Accomplishments

- Muldoon Friday storytimes in the park, Tuesday/Thursday Game Days, as well as the Bus Parade at Loussac.
- Muldoon had two visits from Ann Barnett's Begich MS Recreational Reading class. Students explored the collection and checked out books to read and enjoy.
- Wrapped up the PLA Inclusive Internship Program that included 30 community focused programs presented resulting in a lot of ideas and connections for future programs.
- Loussac Library story walk installed! Thanks to Parks and Rec the permanent story walk was installed on the Loussac Library lawn. The first book featured is Alaskan authors Barbara Atwater and Ethan Atwater with their title *Chia and the Fox Man*. Books will be rotated out once a month.
- Storytimes returned for the fall session. 161 people attended 11 storytimes at Loussac.
- Homeschoolers joined staff at Lousasc and at Chugiak-Eagle River Library to learn Library basics such as catalog searches, take a tour, and learn about the Dewey Decimal system.
- Build It Afternoon engaged children's creativity and engineering skills at Loussac. Staff: Kelsey Skrobis
- LENA classes began a new cohort of six families learning about early literacy and early talk skills. Staff: Samantha Blanquart
- CE hosted Countdown to Kindergarten and two homeschool events including a tour with Raven Homeschool. Sue also organized a Scout badge event for scout groups of all kinds.
- A patron reported that her almost 3yo child loved the pre-reader scavenger hunt. He has been learning his letters, and this is fantastic reinforcement for his newly acquired skills.
- MV evening story times have been picking up an audience. Staff: Keelin Baughman
- CRC Team: Provided in-depth assistance to 36 individuals, hosted an AHFC rental relief clinic and a Housing Lab that assisted 25 additional individuals for a total of 61 individuals served in September. 3 student interns are currently training and shadowing to provide additional assistance at no cost.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Muldoon's first online session for LENA Start—program/device which helps parents improve their verbal communication with infants, helps infants develop strong language basics.
- In October, Loussac Youth Services will launch a new storytime concept called "Self-Guided Storytime Journeys". There will be five stations aligned with the five early literacy practices (READ, SING, TALK, WRITE, PLAY). They will be offered every Saturday in October, allowing families a socially distanced and patron directed way to enjoy the library and learn about early literacy while building memories together. Gerrish will also host SGST. Staff: Elizabeth, Kelsey, Linda, Samantha and Jamie.

- Working with engineers from UAA to start a program series for teens on engineering and STEM. Planned for Spring 2022. Staff: Jon Ebron.
- Fundamentals of Early Literacy three-part video series on our YouTube page. This class is self-led. When parents or caregivers finish the class, they can complete a quiz to receive free books and/or early literacy toys from Anchorage Public Library. We plan to promote this to foster parents and we are working on having it certified for continuing education credit for caregivers. Staff: Samantha Blanquart
- Leap into Science: In partnership with the Alaska Afterschool Network, we are leading statewide trainings on this exciting new curriculum from the Franklin Institute. APL will be hosting these programs this winter. Staff: Elizabeth Nicolai

Bridge to Information and Resources

Recent Accomplishments

- Library Card Signup Month promotion included radio with four local stations, social media influencer and radio personality Malie D endorsement, and APL social, e-mail and in house ads.
- APL partnered with People Mover to promote the new Route 85 service to Loussac Library including a virtual storytime from the Bus (Red Coffey), onsite displays, window mural and digital support. (Misty Rose Nesvick)
- Dimond Transit Center Express Library has gotten through its first quarter of use. July circulated 22 items through it and in September we moved 277 items through the locker. We have had 112 unique users visit the lockers over the last three months.
- Gerrish Library had a 60% increase in library card signups in September compared to August.
- Collection Management Services, September by the numbers: 3,451 new items selected and ordered; 3,734 new items processed and distributed by Technical Services; an additional 2,247 items handled for discarding and maintenance purposes.
- Loussac Adult Services answered 3,745 questions in September and hosted 8 programs with a total attendance of 72 people.
- Sarah Preskitt (Adult Services) worked with the staff at the recently closed Wells Fargo Museum to obtain some materials for the Alaska Collection. These items will be available for pickup in October.
- Kristie Nelsen (Adult Services) Misty Rose Nesvick (Administration), and Sarah Preskitt (Adult Services worked to make the BearCam available for patron viewing in preparation for Fat Bear Week. Patrons and staff alike enjoyed watching the bears of Katmai National Park as they prepared for Fat Bear Week 2021, with one group of people coming to the library specifically to watch the BearCam for about an hour.
- Feel Good Story Nicole Levinson (Adult Services) had a patron come up to her while she was at the media desk. He was very happy about the bear cam and "Fat Bear Week" display on the second floor. He told her about how he had once won a trip to go camping in the bear reserve and how he was excited to read the book off the display about the same reserve. Props to Sarah Preskitt (Adult Services) for a well-designed and received display.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- APL will have monthly Q4 print ads in the Senior Voice to promote library services/collection and Sol De Medianoche to promote early literacy (LENA Start/C2K and 1000 books/Programing)
- APL will display Q4 ads at Dimond Center to promote the library to South Anchorage (DTX/Library cards)
- The Illustrating Alaska exhibit will be coming to Chugiak-Eagle River in October for one week, displayed in the children's section.
- Adult Services has partnered with the United Way to bring in Healthcare Navigators during the months of November and December to assist patrons in signing up for health insurance.
- Adult Services has partnered with the Anchorage Health Department to provide flu shots on October 21st.
- Adult Services has partnered with Visit Healthcare to provide COVID 19 vaccinations on Sundays through December.
- Outreach with Parks and Rec at Tuesday Night Trails and Enchanted Trails events. Staff: Samantha Blanquart and Meneka Thiru
- Judy has had conversations with the Mayor's office on a project to help many of the Anchorage students not reading on grade level get the help they need.

Building Community

Recent Accomplishments

- Muldoon has joined other Library locations with a display of ASD student artwork. The artwork will be refreshed and circulated every six weeks.
- Gerrish Library had two outreach events in the community in September including Girdwood Brewing and The Grind. Multiple people have commented that they enjoy seeing us get out into the community.
- Nancy (Chugiak- Eagle River) presented library updates to the South Fork and Eagle River Valley community councils. There is a lot of excitement over the new online resources APL has provided, and ongoing support for all that we do.
- Nancy (Chugiak- Eagle River) participated in Juneau Public Library's (JPL) Book Nook program about the romance genre. She was able to share resources and book club guidelines/tips with JPL staff to help them level up their romance game.
- Kristine Nelsen (Adult Services) was one of 250 librarians to participate in the National Libraries & Veteran's Forum. Over a two-week span in September, she attended several webinars on providing library services to veterans, creating veteran displays, using the VA work-study program, and supporting veterans with library resources and programs. The forum is offering microgrants, so she's trying to think of a program or service that we would have the capacity to do that would be useful to Anchorage vets.
- Stacia McGourty (Adult Services) and Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) organized and hosted three conversations around intellectual freedom in different types of libraries in partnership with <u>KONR 106.1</u> in honor of Banned Books week.
- Mountain View participated in the MV Community Council Mural Walk.
- Volunteen Fridays returned to Loussac with teens coming in on Fridays in 2 hour blocks to earn community service hours and help with library programs. Teens earned 38 hours this month. Staff: Jon Ebron

- MV hosted Congressman Rodney Davis, ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration which oversees the Library of Congress (LOC). Rep. Davis was interested in the work of the Alaska Center for the book and discussed how the LOC could support libraries and literacy in Alaska. Staff: Rayette Sterling
- Rayette Sterling (Mountain View, branch manager) & Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) partnered with the Alaska Humanities Forum on the Togetherings Podcast series, https://anchor.fm/togetherings. The theme Library as the Public Commons was explored in 3 segments: Library as Space; Library as Conversation Space; and Library as Access to Information.
- MV outreach activities include regular attendance at community council meetings for the Mt. View, Airport Heights (Rayette) and Russian Jack, Fairview (Keelin) neighborhoods.
- MV librarians and Meneka (Adult Services) held an outreach event at CITC.
- Judy met with the Municipality of Anchorage Community Engagement person, Portia Noble Erickson to plan an event for K-3 grade Halloween Event for October 30, 2021.
- Judy met with representative from Home School parents to begin a weekly gathering of students.
- Judy met with Leigh Sloan to begin thoughts on reinstituting her program of "Brace Discussions."
- Judy is working with Rooms Coordinator Rick Henderson about beginning a "Heroes" series.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The Gerrish Library outreach event to Alyeska Resort staff was rescheduled to October 22. We'll also have a table at the Girdwood School Halloween Carnival on October 29.
- MV library mural will be completed by the end of November. Thanks to ALF for grant funding for the project.
- Judy has scheduled a meeting with new Department of Health Director and CRC staff to discuss expanding the program in 2022.

Internal Goals and Strategies

Recent Accomplishments

- New outside signage has been installed at Chugiak-Eagle River so that our community can more easily locate the library and the outside book return. New collection signage also arrived and was immediately praised by one of our regular patrons. Thanks to Clare and Brendan for their help with this project!
- Adult Services has started offering study rooms on the Loussac second and third floor. Study rooms are available for 90 minutes, as staffing and previous room bookings allow.
- Kristie Nelsen (Adult Services) made changes to the Program Proposal form and added the first part online to be forwarded to LibAnswers as a ticket.
- MV completed weeding and shifting of our media collections. The collection is now easier for patrons to browse.
- Judy has visited all branches except Girdwood. The branches do an amazing job while engaging their communities.

- Judy and Jacob toured possible Downtown Library sites with Sami Graham, Mike Robbins, and Brice Wilbanks. Mayor Bronson has listed the Downtown Library as one of his top priorities. His office and the Library are working in conjunction with the Anchorage Library Foundation.
- Judy met with Sarah Preskitt, Alaska Librarian and Gideon Gerlt, Municipal Curator of Art concerning the completion of all cataloguing and appraisal of items in the archives and vault. Many of the valuables of this collection are still in the same state as when flood happened in 2018. Judy is working with Sarah on finding out about digitizing services available to the library at little or no cost to us. This is also one of Mayor Bronson's top priorities. This collection is extremely valuable, and it has not been a focus for many years. It will be one of the top focuses now at the Library. Judy is working on a plan to be done in phases.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Judy is beginning the process of a new Strategic Plan. The current one goes through December 2021. This strategic plan is at the direction of the Mayor's office.
- Judy is working to ensure a safe environment for employees and others to have honest discussions with differing views and opinions.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

• Continued staff shortages at Chugiak-Eagle River due to the hiring freeze have resulted in longer lines at service points and reduced ability to deal with technology failures (like our printer not behaving). Some tasks are being put off for longer than we'd like (checking in & shelving new periodicals, for instance).

Library Board Updates

Recent Accomplishments

• Friends of the Library has cancelled their fall book sales because of COVID concerns.





GROUP STUDY ROOM POLICY - DRAFT 10/06/2021

Group study rooms are provided at some library locations for people to work on projects or study together without disrupting other library patrons.

Chugiak-Eagle River

Group study rooms may be reserved by contacting the library where the group study room is located. Rooms may be reserved no more than sixty (60) days in advance at Chugiak-Eagle River Library. Reservations are forfeited if the group is more than 10 minutes late without prior notification. Walk-in usage is allowed if the rooms are not already reserved.

<u>Loussac</u>

Group study rooms are available on a first come first served basis and reservations are not available.

Usage Rules

- Usage may be limited, upon the determination of library staff, for reasons of availability, need, access equity, etc.
- There is a limit of 10 people
- A group may reserve a room for a 90-minute period per day; extension of time may be given if another group is not waiting for a room. Library staff will determine length of extension. Only one representative from a group may reserve a room per day.
- The person reserving the group study room must leave his/her library card, or other valid identification, at the public service desk for the period of use.
- Rooms must be rented to conduct for-profit business, i.e. private tutoring services, public meetings, or events, i.e. parties.
- Each group study room can accommodate only the number of people for which there is seating. Additional chairs may not be brought into the room nor may people sit on the table or floor in order to accommodate a larger group.
- The group study rooms must be vacated at least 15 minutes before the Library closes.
- Materials, personal or library, may not be left in the study rooms after use. The library assumes no responsibility for loss of materials left in study rooms.
- If the room is left in an untidy state, the patron associated with the room they will be asked to clean it by staff. Leaving a meeting room not as it was at the time of first use may result in a loss of group meeting room privileges. If the room has been damaged in any way, patron will be charged the actual cost for repairs.

Laws and Ordinances

All federal, state, municipal and library regulations, such as the Library's Code of Conduct, apply to the group study rooms. Persons in violation may be evicted.

Study rooms may be monitored by staff for compliance.

Recommended for approval:

Approved by:

Changes:

- Added differing information about Eagle River and Loussac room usage
- Limit number of people to 10
- Limited to 90-minute session
- Rephrase about rental use
- Usage changed to Usage Rules at Legal Department advice
- Added requirement about identification



GROUP STUDY ROOM POLICY

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Group study rooms are provided at some library locations for people to work on projects or study together without disrupting other library patrons.

Reservations

Group study rooms may be reserved in advance by contacting the library where the group study room is located. Rooms may be reserved no more than sixty (60) days in advance. Reservations are forfeited if the group is more than 10 minutes late without prior notification. Walk-in usage is allowed if the rooms are not already reserved. Usage may be limited, upon the determination of library staff, for reasons of availability, need, access equity, etc.

A group may reserve a room for a two-hour period per day; extension of time may be given if another group is not waiting for a room. Library staff will determine length of extension. Only one representative from a group may reserve a room per day.

The person reserving the group study room must leave his/her library card, or other valid identification, at the public service desk for the period of use.

<u>Usage</u>

- Group study rooms are not intended for use by only one person. Individuals wanting a quiet area should seek other places within the library.
- Group study rooms may not be used to conduct for-profit business, e.g. private tutoring services.
- Each group study room can accommodate only the number of people for which there is seating. Additional chairs may not be brought into the room nor may people sit on the table or floor in order to accommodate a larger group.
- The group study rooms must be vacated at least 15 minutes before the Library closes.
- Materials--personal or library--may not be left in the study rooms after use. The library assumes no responsibility for loss of materials left in study rooms.

Laws and Ordinances

All federal, state, municipal and library regulations, such as the Library's Code of Conduct, apply to the group study rooms. Persons in violation may be evicted.

Study rooms may be monitored by staff for compliance.

Recommended for approval: Mary Jo Torgeson, Library Director

Approved by: Library Advisory Board, December 18, 2019



POSTING POLICY

<u>PURPOSE</u>

As a service to the community, information bulletin boards and/or kiosks may be available in designated areas of the library for posting library information, government information, public events, and public service information of non-profit organizations. This policy refers to the posting of informational fliers or posters; exhibits are covered by the Library's *Exhibits Policy*.

POLICY

Items will be posted based on space available under the following priorities:

- 1. Library announcements and events
- 2. Municipality of Anchorage announcements and events
- 3. Events or programs co-sponsored with the Library
- 4. Events or programs sponsored by non-profit organizations
- 5. Educational opportunities from public and non-profit agencies

Permission to post an item is at the discretion of the Library Director, his/her designee or Library Branch Manager.

The posting organization assumes full responsibility for content. All postings must follow Municipal advertising standards*. Display items must be of reasonable size in relation to the space available. In general, items should not be greater than 11" X 17" in size. The library will post only one notice per location. The posting organization is responsible to provide the appropriate number of posters; the Library will not make reproductions. The posting of any notice by outside organizations does not imply endorsement or sponsorship by the Anchorage Public Library or the Municipality of Anchorage.

Postings will be removed after the announced date for dated events. Non-dated postings may be removed after fifteen (15) days and will be posted no longer than sixty (60) days. Postings may be removed without notification at the discretion of the Library Director, his/her designee or the Library Branch Manager. Postings will not be returned to the organization.

The following items will <u>not</u> be posted:

- Personal notices of items for sale, rent, or free distribution
- Promotion of political candidates, political parties, or an advocacy position on any issue on a public election ballot
- Commercial announcements or advertisements by for-profit organizations
- Legal notices

* = http://www.muni.org/Departments/transit/PeopleMover/Pages/BusAdvertisingRestrictions.aspx

Recommended for approval:

Approved by: Library Advisory Board,

Notes to Board:

Changes from old policy:

- "All postings must be suitable for public display" is not legally definable. It was suggested to refer to document with legally defined restrictions.
- Library Advisory Board charter does not give power to review decisions of Library Director adding it to this policy does not adhere to the limits of their authority.
- Municipality cannot restrict speech of religious organizations
- Removed restriction against website posts, this decision will be made by Community Relations staff
- Added new information about distribution
- Removed job posting restriction, Managers will use their best judgement
- Changed 30 days to undated posting to 15 days



POSTING POLICY

<u>PURPOSE</u>

As a service to the community, information bulletin boards and/or kiosks may be available in designated areas of the library for posting library information, government information, public events, and public service information of non-profit organizations. This policy refers to the posting of informational fliers or posters; exhibits are covered by the Library's *Exhibits Policy*. The Library does not post online informational notices or links from the library web page.

POLICY

Items will be posted based on space available under the following priorities:

- 1. Library announcements and events
- 2. Municipality of Anchorage announcements and events
- 3. Events or programs co-sponsored with the Library
- 4. Events or programs sponsored by non-profit organizations of general interest
- 5. Educational opportunities from public and non-profit agencies

Permission to post an item is at the discretion of the Library Director, his/her designee or Library Branch Manager.

The posting organization assumes full responsibility for content. All postings must be suitable for public display. Display items must be of reasonable size in relation to the space available. In general, items should not be greater than 11" X 17" in size.

The library will post only one notice per location; the posting organization is responsible for distributing notices to other library locations if multiple postings are desired. The posting of any notice by outside organizations does not imply endorsement or sponsorship by the Anchorage Public Library or the Municipality of Anchorage.

Postings will be removed after the announced date for dated events. Non-dated postings may be removed after thirty (30) days and will be posted no longer than sixty (60) days. Postings may be removed without notification at the discretion of the Library Director, his/her designee or the Library Branch Manager. Postings will not be returned to the organization.

The following items will <u>not</u> be posted:

- Personal notices of items for sale, rent, or free distribution
- Promotion of political candidates, political parties, or an advocacy position on any issue on a public election ballot
- Announcement of religious worship services
- Commercial announcements or advertisements by for-profit organizations
- Legal notices

Posting decisions may be appealed to the Library Advisory Board.

Recommended for approval: Mary Jo Torgeson, Library Director

Approved by: Library Advisory Board, October 16, 2019

A RESOLUTION TO THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPALITY ASSEMBLY OPPOSING MOVING THE ANCHORAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY UNDER THE PARKS DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, Mayor Bronson's proposed 2022 budget recommends that the Anchorage Public Library move under the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department where a non-librarian will oversee the Anchorage Public Library;

WHEREAS the Parks Department already has a huge responsibility, which could be hindered by adding additional workload to the Parks Director;

WHEREAS moving Anchorage Public Library under the Parks Departments dilutes the essential role of the library of providing: education to the community; a variety of technology assistance both in and outside the library; economic development to small businesses;

WHEREAS the Mission of the Anchorage Public Library is connecting people to education, information, and community, which lacks any significant overlap with the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department's Mission that "... provides outdoor recreation opportunities and conserves and interprets natural, cultural, and historic resources for the use, enjoyment, and welfare of the people;"

WHEREAS the Anchorage Public Library's Strategic Plan focuses on: Education & Skills for Life, Building Community, and a Bridge to Information & Resources. Conversely, the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department's annual strategic focuses on an "action plan for park improvements, community engagement and staff operations, resulting in more than \$3–7 million in annual investment in parks, trails and community recreation programs;"

WHEREAS the Anchorage Public Library is made up of a shared staff and budget for all five branch locations and the new Dimond Transit Express Library. Conversely, the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department has different geographical managers in Eagle River and Girdwood, and Board of Supervisors oversight, which would create disjointed control over buildings, collections, and staffs;

WHEREAS there is little budgetary savings to the city by moving the Anchorage Public Library to a division within the Parks Department;

WHEREAS the Anchorage Public Library already provides equitable access to computing equipment, robust resources, safe, simulating, clean and well-maintained buildings, works with community partners and library programming helping to increase the foundations of reading, social skills, and creative skills through early learning educational activities, and where APL provides civic engagement, cultural enrichment, and enhances the quality of life for all Anchorage residents through provisions of life-long educational services including library materials, online resources, and programs/events. Thus, moving the Anchorage Public Library to Parks & Recreation Department does not improve what the library is already doing;

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Public Library, and our community patrons, need to have a department run by librarians who have the appropriate qualifications, foundations skills and knowledge to provide an essential center for learning, where there is free and equal access to information and library spaces, and where literacy and life-long learning is promoted;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Anchorage Public Library Advisory Board respectfully asks the Anchorage Assembly to deny the proposal to move the Anchorage Public Library under the Parks & Recreation Department, keeping the Anchorage Public Library an independent department.

Vote Yes _____

Vote No _____

Jamie Lang, Chair Library Advisory Board