

Municipality of Anchorage
 Library Advisory Board Agenda
 Microsoft Teams Virtual & In-Person Meeting: January 19, 2022, 5:30 to 7 PM

Attendance	Member
_____	Debra Bronson
_____	Lo Crawford
_____	Dennis Dupras
_____	Travis Gularte
_____	Nancy Hemsath
_____	Barbara Jacobs
_____	Alice Qannik Glenn
_____	Doug Weimann
_____	Cristy A. Willer
_____	Denali Tshibaka

X = Present, E = Excused, U = Unexcused, PH = Phone

Agenda

Topic	Leader	Time	Action
Call to Order	Cristy Willer	5:30	
Land Acknowledgement	Cristy Willer	5:30	
Roll Call and Check-In (currently reading)	Cristy Willer	5:35	
Approval of Agenda	Cristy Willer	5:45	
Persons to Be Heard		5:50	
Approval of Minutes, 12/15/2021	Travis Gularte	6:00	
Director's Report	Judy Eledge	6:05	
Mission Moment: CRC Program	Rebecca Barker	6:20	
Posting and Study Room Policy	Jacob Cole	6:40	
Board Comments and Adjourn	Cristy Willer	6:55	

Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board Minutes
Microsoft Teams Virtual and In-Person Meeting: December 15, 2021, 5:30 PM

Attendance	Member
X	Debra Bronson
E	Lo Crawford
X	Dennis Dupras
X	Travis Gularte
X	Nancy Hemsath
PH	Barbara Jacobs
PH	Alice Qannik Glenn
X	Doug Weimann
X	Cristy A. Willer
X	Denali Tshibaka

X = Present, E = Excused, U = Unexcused, PH = Phone/Virtual

Staff Present

Judy Eledge (Acting Director / Deputy Director) and Jacob Cole (Assistant Director).

Call to Order

5:34 The meeting was called to order by Cristy Willer.

Land Acknowledgement

5:40 – Land acknowledgement was given by Cristy Willer.

Person(s) to be Heard

None.

Mission Moment

The LAB was given a Loussac Library tour by Jacob Cole.

Approvals

- 5:45 Dennis Dupras moved to approve the November meeting minutes, seconded by Denali Tshibaka.
- Nancy Hemsath moved and Doug Weimann seconded approval of the Agenda as amended to include an update on the Bookmobile project.

Discussion/Action Items

1. 5:50 Director's Report

- a. Judy led the group through the Director's report. Highlights: The Strategic Plan is being updated, informed by a staff survey; "Golden Days" event for seniors went well; Children's Bible

Story group has begun; community engagement of youth is increased; and an appraiser for the Library's rare books and paintings has been hired, for insuring and possible auctioning.

- b. Barbara Jacobs asked about the Mayor's goals for LAB. Judy said that the Mayor is currently working on them and she agreed to provide a copy to the LAB when they were complete.
- c. The Library received \$80k for Library Bookmobile donation, and is looking at purchasing a used van. The funds still need to be appropriated by the assembly.

2. 6:10 Denali Tshibaka Presentation: "Inappropriate Literature: The Problem and the Solution"

- a. Denali reviewed several examples of books she felt inappropriate for the "youth" section: *Teen Underground – Social Intercourse* (referencing gay sex, deemed as inappropriate in the presentation); *Blood Moon* – Graphic depiction of sex & menstruation; *The Key to You and Me* – currently present in the teen section.
- b. Denali as a teenager feels it is not right for these books to be present in the kids' areas.
- c. Directly behind the teen section is the foreign book section with more inappropriate literature, more in Youth Services.

Denali proposed a solution: Parents and teens should discuss & discern what would be considered appropriate literature for the youth section, help gain community insight.

- a. Segregate LGBTQ books to its own section, out of the kids section
- b. Segregate all LGBTQ out of kids section
- c. Move graphic scenes books to adult section
- d. Display neutral (?) books only
- e. Add more classic literature to teen section

Comments

- Judy Eledge – We want to take a proactive stance about how literature is categorized at the library.
- Barb Jacobs – We have a process for book orders collection, and shelving. Books should not be taken down; we are not trying to censor books in the public library.
- Travis Gulate – Makes the point that segregating books based on sexual preference and gender is tantamount to racial segregation and isolating kids and teens who may be questioning their sexual identity is extremely dangerous. Barb agrees that kids shouldn't feel singled out.
- Doug Weimann—States he is having similar issues at his elementary school with inappropriate literature in the children's section.
- Barb Jacobs—It's the parent's right to decide which books their kids should be exposed to, and agrees that reorganizing via age group rather than sexuality is appropriate.
- Denali Tshibaka—agrees and thinks simple re-org is appropriate and states she is against censorship.

Adjournment

6:30 – Nancy Hemsath moved, and Denali seconded, a motion to adjourn for the library tour.

Next Meeting

January 19, 2022 – 5:30pm

Director's Report

January 2022

Happy New Year to everyone. We are all back to work and able to cover for a couple of people caught in the holiday flight nightmares getting back to work. A big thank you for departments affected for working as a team to ensure things went smoothly.

We just received an updated COVID policy. In our review it seems not much has changed except quarantine time of someone testing positive for COVID or in close contact with a COVID positive person. That quarantine goes from 10 to 5 days. The changes are CDC acceptable guidelines. We are lucky in the library that we have many large areas and if needed can spread out so not much has to change.

Our Winter Wonderland was a huge success. I have never made 50+ noise makers but I am now an "expert." Thank you, Elizabeth and your team, for organizing another event with the Mayor's office.

We have completed our phase one appraisals of the AK Collection that began with the 17+ items in the Galleria outside of the Ann Stevens room. The evaluation on just the paintings was over \$450,000.00. A big thank you to Sarah Preskitt, Rick Henderson and Brendan Farrell in helping Melissa Fouse, the appraisal, and for cleaning the entire galleria and installing new LED lights. It is beautiful to see once again.

Several of us were able to tour the old municipal building again as a possible location for the Downtown Library. It is a beautiful historical building that has survived many earthquakes and seems to be in great condition. Among those attending were Roe Sturgulewski, Board member of the Anchorage Library Foundation and Mead Treadwell, former AK Lt Governor.

The Senior Committee will be meeting this week with Meneka Thiru in Adult Services to try and plan the rest of the year's meetings. Our December event at Loussac received rave reviews.

Last week we had the excitement of a fire drill that was not a test. After standing outside in -5 temperature we finally went to Natural Pantry. We were able to return to the library in about an hour, and there is still an investigation going on with facilities as exactly where it was located.

We continue to have problems with the homeless bringing several bags into the library full of their items. Per our Code of Conduct we are addressing those issues and limiting how many bags someone can bring with them on rolling items, etc. If anyone is interested in discussing this further, please call me and I will give you some background. Security continues documenting all incidents.

Busy month but moving forward at your Anchorage libraries.

Education & Skills for Life

Recent Accomplishment

- The Muldoon LENA Start October-December '21 cohort has concluded with a 100% graduation rate! All participating families showed an upward trend for words and conversational turns—both strong indicators of success. LENA Start is a data-driven approach to maximizing a family's impact on their baby's language development.
- In partnership with Best Beginnings Muldoon is stocking a Little Library in Chanshtnu Park. It is wildly popular--books are flying out the doors.
- Muldoon hosted it's second community resource events serving 12 Anchorage residents navigate social support services.
- Mountain View in partnership with the Anchorage Health Department hosted a very successful series of classes for teens lead by a health educator.
- Mountain View evening Storytime attendance has been inconsistent, best attendance was 11 on December 28th.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) continued with the United Way of Anchorage series of virtual Facebook Live events around healthcare to help promote Health Care Navigator resources during open enrollment. See recordings here: <https://www.facebook.com/liveunitedanc/videos/>
- Youth Services held Six LENA classes (early literacy and child development classes for caregivers),
- Four community events for 172 people, these include our Countdown to Kindergarten events and the LEGO build and movie and Winter Wonderland. The last was especially a fantastic winter break event with stories, crafts, games, and art.
- Kelsey Skrobis hosted a local youth author, Sheylan Ingles, in an event where she talked about writing a book at age 12.
- Four Hour of Code events for 32 people
- Eleven storytimes for 203 people
- Teen events included Teen games, Teen Craft and Mindfulness, VolunTEEN Fridays, and the Teen Advisory Board.
- Loussac distributed 119 youth programs to go and 97 teen programs to go. The teen programs to go were the Alaska Native Yo Yos that were created in partnership with Alaska Humanity Forum.
- 291 people participated in asynchronous programs at Loussac, primarily our scavenger hunts. One mother told youth librarian that her daughter looks forward to the scavenger hunt every visit and has started being able to look up her own books and find them because of her new catalog skills.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Mountain View Youth Service Librarian, Keelin is strategizing outreach to community partners. Planning to do off-site story times in 2022.
- Adult Services will be displaying the reapportionment maps on the second floor of Loussac Library.
- Loussac and Girdwood Youth Services Staff are working on plans for our new LEGO robotics programming.
- Adult Services is planning a Winter Reading Challenge to take place January 24-March 7. Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) is working with Somos Amigos Spanish Immersion School to develop a conversation circle program for speakers and learners of Spanish language in 2022.
- In January, Loussac Youth Services will add a new program called Reading Games after family storytime that encourages phonetics, sight words, and other emerging literacy skills.

Bridge to Information and Resources

Recent Accomplishments

- Gerrish Library hosted an outreach event for staff at Alyeska Resort to help them sign up for library cards and learn more about library services.
- Mountain View in partnership with the United Way offered an Affordable Care Act Enrollment workshop.
- Mountain View is hosting a monthly People Mover Information Table.
- APL is now featured in a weekly segment called "Stuff in the Stacks" on KBEAR 104.1 (Thursday mornings)
- The Alaska Collection was used for research in an upcoming documentary segment by Culture Story, with host, and former Miss Alaska, Alyssa London. The completed episode will air on FNX: First Nations Experience
- APL promoted Large Type materials on social media, via newsletters, and displays gaining positive public feedback. More info at <https://bit.ly/APLLargeTypeNews>
- Collection Management Services December by the numbers: 4,049 new items processed and distributed by Technical Services; an additional 891 items were handled for collection maintenance; 154 invoices were processed; and 25 original cataloging records created
- Loussac Youth Services staff (Samantha Blanquart) joined other library staff to host a booth at the Winter Solstice event hosted by Parks and Rec at the Cuddy Park, and talked to 98 people about library resources and events.
- Samantha Blanquart installed early learning stations at Polar Pediatrics, Achievement Therapy, and Listen2Learn. They were funded by Alcohol Tax funding. Three more early literacy stations will be installed in early 2022.
- Loussac Youth Services answered 548 Reference and Readers Advisory questions, helped 195 times with computers, and answered 413 other inquiries.

- Reference Statistics
In-Person Questions – 3,178
Telephone Reference: 217
84 E-Mail
Study Room Reservations: 19
- Adult Services hosted 12 programs with a total attendance of 88 people.
- Adult Services planned the first quarter of book displays for 2022.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) worked with Reprographics to create the bookmarks that will be used as finisher prizes. She also created the web and social media graphics we'll be using during the challenge.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) presented to 15 new Community Health Workers who are working through Alaska Primary Care Associates and are working at host organizations around Anchorage and the Mat-Su.
- Anchorage Public Library and the Senior Activity Center ran the first of the monthly Golden Afternoons program for Seniors. Meneka Thiru (Adult Services), Jim Curran (Muldoon Branch), and Jan Hardy presented to 12 patrons about library resources.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) worked with the Alaska AIDS Assistance Association to put together a World AIDS Day book display.
- Andrew Allard (Adult Services) edited a book talk video for January release.
- Nicole Levinson (Adult Services) created the gnome ornaments hidden DIY display. There were 8 QR code scans from this display.
- Nicole Levinson (Adult Services) created the BINGO cards for the Winter Reading Challenge. Three cards were created, and they will be distributed to each branch in January. When the challenge starts, they will also be available for download on our website.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- APL will be featured in a series of ads on both People Mover Buses and Anchor Rides Vehicles
- Jarrell Danial of Alaska Native Justice Center will be presenting at the January 13th Adult Services staff meeting. He works with the adult reentry program.
- The Municipality of Anchorage People Mover will be doing outreach at Loussac Library monthly. We can expect to see a representative from People Mover in the atrium on the first Wednesday of the month.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) is coordinating with Chugach Manor to have a library presence at a senior resource fair in the spring.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) met with House of Transformation, a transitional housing facility, and is developing collaborations to connect their clients with library resources.
- Stacia McGourty (Adult Services) has scheduled a meeting with workforce development groups in Anchorage to ensure that the materials and coordinating programs developed with our Institute of Museums and Library Services grant complements services and resources already available in Anchorage. Our goal is to avoid duplication of services, and to develop programming and materials with which our target audience are more likely to engage.

Building Community

Recent Accomplishments

- Mountain View partnered with the Mountain View Community Council, and local business BabyVend on the Drive Through Holiday Party. Over 200 gift cards, goody bags and candy canes were handed out. Santa was a big hit as was the holiday music!
- Samantha Blanquart (Youth Services) and Stacia McGourty (Adult Services) staffed the Anchorage Public Library table at the Winter Solstice Festival (Parks and Recreation) on December 21st. We talked to about 100 people and contacted other community organizations for future partnership opportunities.
- Samantha attended the Thread Early Childhood Summit.
- Elizabeth Nicolai participated in the Early Childhood working group led by United Way.
- Linda Klein encouraged her neighbor to get a library card, she excitedly texted me a picture of her new card. She has not been to a library in years. She's looking forward to all the eBook content!

Internal Goals and Strategies

Recent Accomplishments

- Chugiak-Eagle River interviewed for and hired a new Library Assistant III. Taylor Keister (formerly our Library Assistant II) was promoted as of December 20.
- Community Relations Coordinator, Misty Rose, wrote two nationally published articles. One for EBSCO Blog and one for Marketing Library Services (MLS); describing APL's award-winning marketing campaign for Books Get Our Vote and the successful "Get Connected" direct mail campaign.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) received a Library Foundation grant to fund a project to learn and get feedback from linguistically diverse communities in Anchorage. She has met with 11 people so far and is continuing to meet with community members and compile feedback received. She will continue meeting with individuals and groups in the new year.
- Elizabeth Nicolai took over Juvenile and Young Adult Graphic Novel ordering while collection management is down a librarian position.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

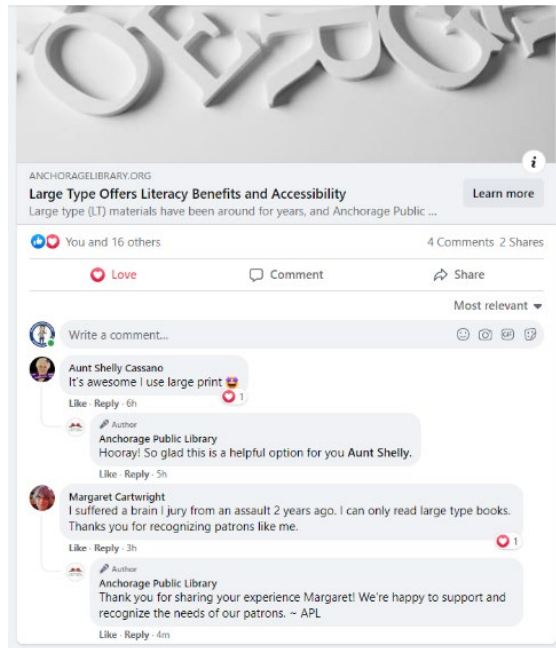
- Linda Klein and Elizabeth Nicolai are going to lead a systemwide youth services attempt with the help of Collection Management Services to split the juvenile fiction collection into juvenile fiction and J-BEG which will be beginning chapter books. This will help families as their children are becoming more independent readers and progressing through the levels.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Due to filling the Chugiak-Eagle River range 9 vacancy internally, the branch is still understaffed by 23% of our weekly staff hours.



First Lady Deb Bronson and library patrons during Golden Afternoon at Loussac



Social media post about Large Type with patron comments

Aunt Shelly Cassano: It's awesome I use large print

Margaret Cartwright: I suffered a brain injury from an assault 2 years ago. I can only read large type books. Thanks for recognizing patrons like me.



POSTING POLICY

PURPOSE

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 not 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: Judy Eledge 10/20/2021



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.

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.

Loussac

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 reserved for business purposes including services, meetings, and events are subject to rental fees as described under the Services section of the APL website.
- 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: Judy Eledge, 10/20/2021