

Municipality of Anchorage  
 Library Advisory Board Agenda  
 Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting: Month, 06, 2021, 5:30 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

Attendance	Member
_____	Wei Chang
_____	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**

3. Agenda

Topic	Leader	Time	Action
Call to Order	Jamie Lang	5:30pm	
Land Acknowledgement	Jamie Lang	5:35pm	
Person(s) to be Heard	None		
Introduction of Sami Graham	Jacob Cole	5:40pm	
Approval of Minutes, May 19, 2021	Jamie Lang	5:55pm	
Mission Moment: Anchorage Reads	Stacia McGourty	6:00pm	
Staff Updates	Jacob Cole	6:20pm	
Board Comments and Adjourn	Jamie Lang	6:30pm	

**Municipality of Anchorage  
Library Advisory Board  
Minutes**

Date: May 19, 2021	Location: TEAMS meeting
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Board Members			Staff	
X	Jamie Lang, Chair	EX	Lucy Flynn O'Quinn	Misty Nesvick
EX	Sarah Switzer, Vice Chair	X	Nancy Hemsath	
X	Cristy A. Willer, Sect'y	X	Wei Cheng	
X	Barbara Jacobs	X	Alice Qannik Glenn	
X	Lourdes Linato-Crawford			

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Retreat.	Information / Findings / Conclusions / Recommendations	
Call to Order	5:38 p.m.	
Land Acknowledgement	The Chair gave a land acknowledgement to the original people of this area.	
Person to be heard	None.	
Mission Moment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Misty Nesvick described the "Orange Boy" cardholder data system, which provides dashboards of library use (there were 37,340 patrons in the system last year).</li> </ul>	
Approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agenda approved with addition of "board term expirations" (Nancy/Wei).</li> <li>Minutes of 4.21.21 approved (Lo/Barb).</li> </ul>	
Discussion/ Action Items	Discussion	Action
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Board terms expiring</u>. Sarah, Wei, and Jamie (and possibly Lucy) have 3-year terms that are expiring on 10/14/21. Sarah and Wei would like to continue; Jamie is not sure. When the mayor appoints someone to deal with boards and commissions, they will receive this information. Discussion followed about the importance of recruiting more diverse board members.</li> <li><u>Director's Report</u> (attached). The board discussed mask mandates and staff changes, in addition to Education &amp; Skills for Life, Bridget to Information and Resources, Building Community, and Internal Goals and Strategies.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give terms-expiring information to the Mayor's boards and commissions person.</li> </ol>
Comments	None.	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 6:30 (Barb/Wei/Sarah).	
Next Meeting	June; 5:30-7:00, TEAMS virtual.	

## Education & Skills for Life

### Recent Accomplishments

- Chugiak-Eagle River had a group of 30+ tae kwon do students come in with their instructor. Many of them have ASD accounts and were able to check out materials. Increased familiarity with their community library is something we promote with other organizations.
- Red (Muldoon) went to Peratrovich Park twice in June for storytime. While crowds were small, they were committed to having a good time. We enjoy several books and free play with the bubble machine.
- Keelin's Summer Discovery Activities (Mountain View) in Lyons Park continues to have strong numbers averaging 25 – 30 attendees.
- As of June 30, 2,516 people have registered for Summer Discovery. Our goal had been to be at 50% of 2019 numbers as we bring people back in. We are currently at 71% of 2019 numbers.
- Programs to go are still being distributed at three locations (Loussac, Muldoon, and Mountain View). They remain popular with people whose schedules preclude them from attending traditional library programming. In June we distributed 356 youth and 27 teen programs to go for a total of 387 programs to go.
- In June Loussac hosted on the library lawn or at local parks (Valley of the Moon Park, Campbell Park, and Fish Creek Park) 18 storytimes for 683 people. Storytime on the library lawn is especially popular. We brought back our summer discovery programs, 7 events attracted 430 people.
- Loussac Youth Services staff are working with local day camps for smoother library visits and incorporating literacy into their summers. At 11 camp visits we saw 376 campers in June.
- Kristie (Adult Services) created and shared beginning computers handouts with other Adult Services staff to use when assisting patrons.
- Stacia (Adult Services) facilitated a session around government funding for the Alaska Literacy Program's series: Understanding Municipal Government.
- Sarah (Adult Services) has updated and posted the Unanga and Alutiiq guide to the website and hope to have the Athabascan (Dene) guide posted by the second week of July. Now that the web formatting is complete this should go smoothly.
- Sarah (Adult Services) worked with Jon (Youth Services) to coordinate materials for a high school class doing individual research projects on public lands and preserves in Alaska.

### Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Job Lab will resume at Mountain View beginning in July
- Samantha Blanquart is working on the Welcoming Baby postcard to distribute in the fall to hospitals and birthing centers.

- Early Literacy library staff (Samantha Blanquart, Elizabeth Nicolai) is working with community partners, including Anchorage School District, to host a Countdown to Kindergarten kick off event in August. This will be the beginning of a year's worth of events and skill building activities for four year olds.
- Kristie (Adult Services) will be doing presentations for the Veteran's Administration job club in August.
- Meneka (Adult Services) is working with the YWCA to return to in-person Job Lab in July and to think about new ways the program could help patrons.

## Bridge to Information and Resources

### Recent Accomplishments

- The Community Resource Coordinators have had a successful month – connecting several people to jobs and housing and participated in the facilitator training arranged by Adult Services. Latoya Alloway joined the team as the Assistant Community Resource Counselor for Muldoon.
- Mountain View partnered with the Anchorage Health Department and Alaska Division of Public Health for Community Narcan Training – 10 individuals received training and free Narcan kits.
- Misty Rose Nesvick (Community Engagement) and Kelsey Skrobis (YS) designed an ad for the Chugiak Eagle River Bear Paw Festival guide, to promote Summer Discovery at the Chugiak-Eagle River Library
- Collection Management Services: June by the numbers  
2,855 new items selected, ordered and records loaded from our three main vendors (print, leased, media)  
3,153 new items processed and distributed by Technical Services
- In June Loussac Youth Services staff answered 707 reference questions, assisted 252 with circulation issues, helped 215 times with computers, and 163 times with other patron inquiries.
- Loussac Youth Services partnered with Lemonade Day Alaska, a program to promote entrepreneurial skills in children, to be a pick up site for participants.
- Reference Statistics  
In-Person Questions – 4233  
Telephone Reference: 312 calls answered  
LibAnswers: 117 tickets answered

- Most interesting reference queries:

*What is the acreage count for the Library and Cuddy Park? What did the Cuddy family own before turning it into the Library and the Park?*

*Information found through Alaska Department of Natural Resources Plat maps and documentation, as well Assembly Memorandum: 33.25 acres, land was not owned by the Cuddy family but obtained by the MOA via investors in 1981 and 2000 respectively*

- Adult Services hosted 16 programs with a total attendance of 288 people.
- Meneka (Adult Services), Keelin (Mountain View), and Rhiannon (Mountain View) tabled at the Juneteenth Anchorage celebration at the Northway Mall. The event was large (rough estimate, 2,000 people) and we talked to 130 people, signed 13 up for library cards, and checked out books to 15. People were excited to see the library there with the amazing collection of books

and book lists that Keelin put together and we had a fair number of folks who didn't know we were fine free. We had a lot of great conversations about a variety of resources.

- Meneka (Adult Services) and Samantha (Youth Services) tabled at the Korean-Alaska Friendship Day Celebration at the Dimond Mall. We promoted materials in our collection by Korean creators (both in English and Korean) and encouraged families and adults to sign up for Summer Discovery. We talked to 51 people, signed 4 up for library cards, and checked out books to 3. We got comments from community members who were excited that there was a Korean language collection.

## Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Mountain View is hosting a second Narcan training in July
- The APL Welcome Brochure is being updated and will include translated versions (Due end of Summer)
- Meneka (Adult Services) is planning for more summer outreach including the Wednesday Dimond Farmers Market in July and helping Muldoon cover the Muldoon Farmers' Markets while staff is out in July and August.
- Nate (Adult Services), Rebecca (Community Resource Coordinator), Ziona (Community Resource Coordinator), and Meneka (Adult Services) are working on building a partnership with Beacon Hill to provide age-relevant resources to families hosting children.
- Sarah (Adult Services) is working with Irene Rowan on a film and panel series celebrating the 50th anniversary of Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 to take place over five weeks in November and December 2021. The goal is to make the films available to Anchorage patrons via streaming and physical media following the series.
- Tamzan's (Adult Services) Mystery Book Club will resume in September 2021
- Sarah (Adult Services) will be testing a board on Biblioboard to make municipal documents digitally available at some point in July now that we are able to access Pressbooks and Biblioboard Creator.

## Building Community

### Recent Accomplishments

- A librarian from Enoch Pratt Free Library joined the romance book club to observe in preparation for starting one at her branch. She said, "I absolutely loved joining the group last night. To be honest, I've never felt that comfortable with a group that I've just met before and it was a great experience. I love reading romances and I've always written for fun on the side but started pursuing it a little more seriously over this past year, so your group was just a really comfortable space to be in." Creating a safe & welcoming space is one of our goals for this group.
- Jim attended the first Annual Creekside Trail Party for CITC's Creekside II and Creekside 49 residents, as well as the Annual Spirit of Muldoon Picnic. We engaged over 90 Muldoon residents between the two events.
- Jim attended the first Muldoon Farmers Market on June 26 and spoke 30-plus attendees. We plan to be a presence for the rest of the summer.

- From April to June Muldoon staff have assisted over 150 residents access AK Public Assistance forms so that can apply for SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, and more. Our Public Assistance drop box is in constant use.
- At Muldoon, in response to issues with an elderly couple, Jim reached out to Access Alaska and secured a disability walker for by patrons with mobility issues when visiting the library. He also picked one each for Mountain View and Muldoon.
- Department of Corrections Institutional Discharge Project resumed meeting their clients in person at the Mountain View Community Room.
- Had a table at the Girdwood Pride Event for library card and Summer Discovery sign ups and some promotion items to give away.
- Anchorage Reads concluded the final events in the program, including two panel discussions, and helped with hosting a closing celebration featuring live music on the Loussac Lawn to bring participants together in person. Around 60 people attended the closing celebration.

### Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Room rentals are slowly picking up. We will work on promoting holiday parties and 2022 weddings.
- In discussion with Parks and Recreating and the Girdwood Fire Department about a possible outdoor or offsite Storytime in October in order to circumvent a scheduling overlap with a reservation in the community room.

### Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Meneka (Adult Services) is exploring partnership ideas with the UAA/APU Books of the Year program.

## Internal Goals and Strategies

### Recent Accomplishments

- Community Resource Coordinator Rebecca Barker won the MOA Executive Employee of the Year Award and Muldoon's Library Assistant Lead Dino Passarino won the MOA Safety Award. Go team!
- Assembly members Allard and Kennedy were invited to Books with Chinooks to see how our community works together to promote literacy and community involvement.
- Latoya Alloway has joined the Community Relations team and will be working out Muldoon assisting residents in the North East Anchorage.
- Rhiannon Brown joined the MV team filling our vacant AMEA 9/Library Assistant II position. MV is now fully staffed and poised to reopen and re-connect with our community.
- Misty Rose Nesvick (Community Engagement) prepared the communications/marketing timeline for the Dimond Transit Express Library
- A group of twelve staff members representing Adult Services, Community Resource Coordinators, Branch staff, and Patron Services completed a five-week Facilitation workshop. The workshop was hosted by the Alaska Humanities forum.

### Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Adult Services staff (Stacia, Kristie, Meneka, and Andy), Red (Muldoon), and Misty Rose (Community Relations) are participating in work group to determine video content needs and workflows.
- Meneka (Adult Services) received a Library Foundation grant to fund a focus group project to learn and get feedback from linguistically diverse communities in Anchorage. She will begin planning and recruiting participants in June and July with a target to start conducting the focus groups in August or early September.
- Meneka (Adult Services) is working with the Expectations for Public Interactions committee to develop outreach expectations and to-go kits.

### Limiting Factors/Concerns

- There were no qualified candidates for the part time youth services librarian position so we have reposted that. This makes our staffing difficult, especially on weekends.

## Library Board Updates

### Next Steps/Coming Soon

- ALF preparing a donor survey to go out later this summer
- There is renewed interest in the community for a downtown branch. Clare has talked to some developers and community partners (Beans Café) to see if there are options for partnerships. The ALF downtown funds are still short of being able to secure a new place and renovate it, AND pay for Library operations, but if the Administration is able to help, we could get it going soon.

## Photo Op or Social Media



 **Iris May**  
@MissMayfieldAK

I  love the Public Library. Really. I love looking at books, checking out books, renewing books, placing holds on books, and occasionally working from the library. THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IS SUCH A GIFT.  
[#lovetheloussac](#)

9:12 PM · Jun 15, 2021 · Twitter Web App

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