Patagonia Public Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Patagonia Public Library, 346 Duquesne, Patagonia, AZ

The meeting was called to order in the Mary Rebecca Cady Reading Room in the Patagonia Library at 4:01 P.M.

In attendance were Laura Wenzel, Library Director, Board Members Anu Krzys, Debbie Robinson, Sondra Porter, Deb Goff, Cynthia Berk, Town Manager Robinson, and Abbie Zeltzer.

The minutes from the February 17, 2022, meeting was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Legacy Garden, Maintenance Concerns & Outdoor Space – Anu reported that Richard, the artist who created the gates, does not want to alter his design. So, Anu suggested talking to George, town employee, to weld some metal on the bottom of the gates to make them pig proof. Cynthia suggested putting plexiglass on the bottom to not change the design of the gates. Roof repair - waiting on receiving the metal to complete repair. Outdoor space plans/ideas are now with Jeff Lathum and may take a while. It was suggested to be mindful of maintenance on whatever is planned.

NEW BUSINESS

We had all read Laura’s report and there were no questions so moved onto Laura’s resignation. We are sad to see her go but wish the best for her. Town Manager Robinson and Laura spoke on the interview process, placing ads, interview panel (Town Manager, Laura, Marilyn Miller from Friends of the Library, Anu from the Library Board). Positions of Library Director & Library Clerk will stay open until filled. So far there is one applicant for Library Director and the interviews will begin Monday, March 21st at 10:30 A.M. Abbie Zeltzer has a 3-month contract with the Town, April, May, June, 10-16 hours per week, to be a mentor and supervisor during this transition. She will take Laura’s place on the interview panel when Laura leaves, March 31. For the interim, Kayla and Jade will have their hours increased to 24 hours each and rearrange their schedules to cover Tuesday through Saturday and have the library closed on Monday. Volunteers will be needed on Tuesday and Saturday to help with the continuity of this transition. The Board discussed their ideas and concerns for the interview process and these were some of the ideas spoken: Make sure the process identifies people who are rooted or willing to be in the community, have a Bachelors or Library experience, have a lot of enthusiasm in the community, someone who can build the collection and can make people feel welcome in the library, find the right mix of personalities thru the interview process. Abbie spoke and told us that along with mentoring and supervising, she would be finishing any grants that were already started, accounting and budgets. The library will hold off on applying for any Grants at this time. Laura informed us that the new circulation desk would be delivered April 7th. She suggested using Cady Hall for set up/assembly and use Monday, since we would be closed, to install in place. Anu asked about getting the word out for volunteers to help and Laura said she would put on social media. Cynthia asked if the plexiglass would need to be redone. Laura said yes, and that there is still money available in the ARPA funds if needed. Anu tabled the discussion on the CD Collection.

No future agenda items mentioned. The next Library Board Meeting was set for April 14, 2022, at 4 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Minutes submitted by Debbie Robinson 03/19/2022