# Cook Memorial Library Commission

# Meeting Minutes

## Thursday, August 19, 2021

## 4:00 PM

Meeting Attendees: Ryan Zastrow, Barbara Minge, Carrie Bushman Angela D’Antonio, Jennie Tucker, Mackenzie Isaak

Absent: Marilyn Herbst, Nichole Welch, Wyatt Christensen, Alicia McConnell

1. Call to order

a) Meeting called to order at: 4:03 PM via Zoom.

1. Introductions

a) Carrie Bushman, Interim Library Director, let everyone know that meetings must be held virtually until the City lifts the restriction on meeting in-person.

b) Carrie introduced Mackenzie Isaak, the new Children’s Services Librarian. Mackenzie shared a little bit of background about herself to the commission.

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

a) Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes as is, Barbara Minge seconded the motion.

1. Correspondence

a) None, Jennie Tucker explained what correspondence typically means to Carrie Bushman. Carrie will keep this in mind for future meetings.

1. Public Comments

a) None

1. Reports

a) Carrie Bushman shared the current Library budget with the commission, and updated them as to current grant amounts and those currently in progress. The grants included leftover monies to spend from the Cares Act and OCF grant. The library will use this leftover amount to purchase additional materials relating to technology/computers for library patrons. The library has applied for and received money from the Union County Library Foundation in the amount of $2975.00. This money was used to purchase kits from the program Books For Babies, through ALA. The program will partner with the Birthing Center at GRH to provide kits which will include a book, library card and informational brochures for parents. The library has applied for next year’s State Ready 2 Read grant which covers costs and time for the summer reading program in 2022. A library patron applied for and received a grant through Oregon Rural Action in the amount of $1620.00. This money will be spent on food preservation products and cookbooks. Ryan Zastrow voiced concern over the use of Instant Pots and how they would be difficult to keep cleaned. Carrie Bushman said she would look into this and see about other options. She will have the applicant discuss ideas about the project with OSU extension office.

b) The summer reading program was a success and saw a total of 262 participants through the library’s virtual platform, Beanstack. The use of lanyards and buttons was a hugely successful part of the program this year.

c) Carrie Bushman shared statistics included in the City Manager’s monthly report, including Hoopla, Kanopy, Library2Go, Dial-a-Story, library materials circulation, and cardholder numbers. Angela D’Antonio mentioned that in previous discussions with the commission, it had been brought up that Kanopy needed more publicity in order to see improved statistical numbers. She mentioned that perhaps the City water bill, or OTECC would be a good place to advertise. Director Bushman will look into this.

1. New Business

a) It was brought up that Carrie had a conversation with Brent Lewis, who is in charge of funds from the Cook Library Trust. Carrie found out that the Library will be receiving $2568.00 from the trust to cover costs from last fiscal year, in regards to audiovisual services.

b) Director Bushman shared the updates and changes in regards to the library’s webpage. The anti-racism book list was taken down, along with the Black Lives Matter and Stop Asian Hate pages. She explained that they had been up there for quite some time and in the future, the library will remain neutral and un-biased in regards to items posted on the page. Angela D’Antonio expressed her concern over taking down the book list. Director Bushman shared that since there are no other book lists provided on the webpage, there shouldn’t be just the one. Carrie will provide a paper bookmark of the Anti-Racism book list and it will be placed with the library’s other genre bookmarks at the front desk. Ryan Zastrow agreed that this would be a good solution.

c) Director Bushman expressed concern over the lack of food for the Library’s Little Food Pantry. Angela D’Antonio suggested that she create a post for the Facebook group, La Grande Strong, and that she would look into getting some fundraiser started with the local Girl Scouts. Carrie will look into getting a post made for Facebook.

1. Adjournment

a) Meeting adjourned at: approximately 4:57 PM

b) Next meeting will be held via Zoom on September 16, 2021.