

MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY
April 6, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Community Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees of Peoria Public Library was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Barbara Van Auken on Zoom.

II. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Margaret Cousin, Barbara Van Auken, Lucy Gulley, Tiffanie Duncan, Cathie Neumiller, and Arun Pinto (entered 5:36)

Committee Members Absent: Cathy Curtis and Tom Menger

Staff Present: Randall Yelverton, Roberta Koscielski, Jennifer Davis, Jenny Sevier, Alyce Jackson, and Karla Wilkinson

III. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Approval of March 2, 2021 Minutes

Margaret Cousin made a motion to approve the minutes from the November meeting. Lucy Gulley seconded the motion.

The motion carried by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cousin, Duncan, Gulley, Pinto, Van Auken – 5

Nays: None

B. North Branch Back Patio Area Update

Committee members were shown a photo of the new patio furniture in its permanent location behind North Branch. Margaret Cousin indicated that she will offer to take the donors of the furniture to see it in place. Karla Wilkinson will arrange for a plaque commemorating the donation.

C. New Library Website Update

Jennifer Davis reported that the new website had great start but then it soon became apparent that it required a dedicated server because it is more interactive and robust than the previous website. This change has been made and now the website has room to grow.

IV. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

A. Early Voting at Main Library and Election Day at North Branch

Randall Yelverton reported that the library once again hosted early voting at the Main Library and regular election day voting at North Branch. Alyce Jackson said that only 55 people voted in early voting at Main.

B. AARP Tax Help at Main Library and North Branch

Alyce Jackson reported that all tax appointments are full, and there is a waiting list.

- C. Peoria Public Library, WTVP, and City/County Health Department Collaboration
Jenni Davis stated that the earlier reported television story times with Monica Hendrickson have been taped. WTVP will let her know when they will air.
- D. Author Elaine Weiss Collaboration – 101st Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage
The library, in conjunction with the Peoria Riverfront Museum, Peoria Historical Society, and League of Women Voters, is trying to reschedule programs that were cancelled in 2020. The committee is negotiating a price for author Elaine Weiss to appear virtually as opposed to in person. The Peoria Historical Society will have a display in the library gallery in June to correspond with the programming.
- E. Peoria Reads 2021
Roberta Koscielski shared that this is the 20th year of Peoria Reads, and she will be stepping down as chair of the committee after this year. Alyce Jackson will take over as chair. This year’s book is *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean. Board members were emailed a preliminary list of programs.
- F. Peoria Riverfront Museum Passes
The museum is open to visitors again, so the library will circulate passes. Alyce Jackson worked with the museum to update passes, and all library locations have them available for checkout.
- G. Hemingway – WTVP Underwriting
Randall Yelverton reported that the library contributed \$600 to help underwrite the documentary series about Ernest Hemingway on WTVP. The library logo will appear in the program guide, and there will be ads for the library on before or after the program as well as on other WTVP channels.
- H. Earth Day program – Bike Readiness – with Dunlap Public Library
Library maintenance staff member Robert Kaplafka will present a virtual program on getting your bicycle ready for Earth Day. This program will be available to patrons from Peoria and Dunlap libraries.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Barbara Van Auken adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Barbara Van Auken, Chair
Community Relations Committee
Board of Library Trustees
Peoria Public Library