MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY
May 3, 2022

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 Vice Chair Margaret Cousin in the 2nd Floor Community Room of Peoria Public Library Main Library.

II. ROLL CALL
Committee Members Present: Margaret Cousin, Cathie Neumiller, Cathy Curtis, and Tom Menger
Committee Members Absent: Steve Buck, Roberta Parks, and Barbara Van Auken
Staff Present: Randall Yelverton, Roberta Koscielski, Jennifer Davis, Alyce Jackson, and Sarah Couri

III. ORDER OF BUSINESS
A. Approval of April 5, 2022 Minutes
   Due to lack of a quorum, these minutes will be brought to the June meeting for approval.

IV. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP UPDATES
A. Ballot Drop-off Box at North Branch – Collaboration with Election Commission
   Randall Yelverton reported that the Election Commission requested placement of a ballot box at North Branch. A concrete pad would be laid and the box would be bolted to the pad during election periods. The box would be unbolted and removed after each election period which last around 40 days. The box will likely be placed at the far end (west) of the parking lot.

B. Make Art Your Superpower!
   Sarah Couri showed a slide show which will be completed and sent by Friday as part of the final report of the grant project. The application for the next grant period has been submitted. If funded, programming will occur sometime during July through September.

C. Peoria Reads!
   Alyce Jackson reported on the following events that have been held:
   - Author Melody Warrick Zoom presentation
   - Community walks led by Pedestrians in Peoria
   - The Art and Science of Happiness program at Methodist College
   - Volunteer Fair at North Branch
   Upcoming programs include:
   - Outdoor Storytimes at off-site locations
   - Good Neighbor Day on September 28
D. Mental Health Awareness Month programs
   Alyce Jackson reported on programs related to mental health that have been planned by
   Jamie Jones and held at North Branch

E. Summer Reading Program
   Alyce Jackson distributed summer reading bookmarks and reported that the program will run
   from June 5 through July 16. Sign up begins on May 15 and participation can be done via
   paper log sheets or online reporting. For those who participate at least 5 weeks, the final
   party will be held on July 19 at Peoria Zoo from 5 to 8 p.m. The final party for adults who
   have participated at least 5 weeks will be held on August 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. at North Branch.

F. Social Work Intern working with Alzheimer’s Association
   Alyce Jackson noted that social work intern Logan Nickerson has booked “Ten Warning
   Signs of Alzheimer’s” for May 31 at Lincoln Branch; “Understanding Alzheimer’s and
   Dementia” for June 22 at Main Library; and a program to be announced for July 23 at
   Lakeview Branch.

G. Local History & Genealogy Tours in collaboration with Peoria County Genealogical Society
   Alyce Jackson reported that Amber Lowery has conducted two tours of the local history and
   genealogy area in March and April and will do one more on May 14.

H. Other Outreach events
   Alyce Jackson mentioned the following recent or upcoming events:
   Apr 29 – Manual High School – Jamie Jones instructed on databases, apps, library cards
   Apr 30 – Kindergarten Round-up – Jacob Roberts and Alyce Jackson staffed a table
   May 4 – Parent University at Roosevelt School – Jennifer Jacobsen-Wood will attend
   May 7 – Whittier reading event – Alyce Jackson will represent PPL
   May 12 – Luthy Botanical Garden – Rose Farrell will provide storytime
   May 13 – Trewyn Rotary Readers – Andrea will present a program for them at Main and
   each child will be presented with a book pillow sewn by American Legion Auxiliary
   members and a children’s book provided by Friends of Peoria Public Library
   May 14 – Springdale – Rose Farrell will provide storytime
   May 14 – PNC Worldwide Day of Play – Katy Bauml and Rose Farrell will staff
   May 21 – Sculpture Walk Ribbon Cutting – Alexa Cary will represent PPL

V. OTHER BUSINESS
   Roberta added that Elise Hearn will supervise a social work intern during the 2022-2023
   school year at Lakeview Branch. Cynthia Smith of Lincoln Branch is working on a new
   collaboration with the Fine Arts Society.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
   The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Margaret C. Cousins
Margaret Cousin, Vice Chair
Community Relations Committee
Board of Library Trustees
Peoria Public Library