

MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY
March 1, 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 Chair Barbara Van Auken in the 2nd Floor Community Room of Peoria Public Library Main Library.

II. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Margaret Cousin, Barbara Van Auken, Cathie Neumiller, Cathy Curtis, and Tom Menger

Committee Members Absent: Steve Buck and Roberta Parks

Staff Present: Randall Yelverton, Roberta Koscielski, Jennifer Davis, Alyce Jackson, Karla Wilkinson, and Sarah Couri

III. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Approval of July 6, 2021 Minutes

Margaret Cousin made a motion to approve the minutes from the July meeting. Cathie Neumiller seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

A. Media Literacy

Jenni Davis reported that library programs on media literacy launched in October. The library was contacted by Bradley University professor Dr. Cory Barker. He will be presenting monthly programs on media literacy.

B. Make Art Your Superpower!

Sarah Couri introduced the artist-in-residence program starting at McClure Branch. It is being supported by a grant in partnership with Delta Kappa Gamma Nu Chapter and will include collaboration with community organizations, as well as programs for the public.

C. AARP Tax Help

Alyce Jackson said that tax appointments are nearly full. AARP will be helping people through the end of April at North Branch and Main Library.

D. Vaccine Clinics at Main, Lincoln, North, and Lakeview

The library hosted COVID vaccine clinics at 4 locations. There are no attendance numbers available yet.

E. Peoria Reads!

Alyce Jackson shared that there are lots of programs planned for Peoria Reads! this year. There will be a proclamation at city hall on March 22 to kick off programming.

F. Women's History Programs

The library has a banner on the website that links to books and programs related to Women's History Month. There will be a panel discussion with three female reporters, as well as special talks by representatives of the Peoria Historical Society.

G. Yoga

The library is offering free yoga classes during the lunch hour at Main Library in the hopes of attracting people who work downtown.

H. OLLI Tour of Main Library

Jenni Davis and Roberta Koscielski led an OLLI class on a tour of Main Library. It included some behind-the-scenes areas and instruction on library databases.

I. Portraits of Peoria

Randall Yelverton reported that Big Picture Peoria has offered to install vinyl portraits of famous Peorians in the windows of Main Library.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Roberta Koscielski received a request from the chief of police to help stock a Little Free Library at the police station. The Friends of the Library will provide books, and Cathy Curtis volunteered to be in charge of stocking it.

Goodwill of Peoria will have a representative at Main Library every other Thursday to offer job assistance to patrons.

Barbara Van Auken asked for an updated list of library community partners to be sent to the committee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Barbara Van Auken adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

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