



Minutes

Library Board

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Thursday, February 10, 2022

7:00 PM

177 N. Hertz Rd

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Notice is hereby given that the Library Advisory Board of the City of Coppell, Texas met in Regular Session in the Meeting Rooms AB at 177 N. Hertz Rd.

Regular Session (Open to the Public)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Frank Gasparro at 7:00 p.m.

Also present were Vice Chair Martha Garber, Board Member Matthew Ittoop, Board Member Anne Diamond, Board Member Michelle Ostrander, Board Member Haridas Radhakrishnan, Alternate Carly Brenner, Alternate Patricia Graziano and Youth Advisors Priya Kelley and Akanksha Subbarao.

Staff in attendance were Director of Library Services, Dennis Quinn, Assistant Library Director, Amy Pittman-Hassett, Librarian Jennifer Franz, Librarian Morgan Green-Griffin, and Administrative Technician III, Laurie Arnold. Also present was Robert Hager, City Attorney.

Board Member Sekhar Katkam was absent.

2. Citizen's Forum

Pamalee Canterbury, 214 Richmond Court, spoke in favor of removing the book, *Gender Queer: a Memoir*, by Maia Kobabe, permanently from the library.

Conor Donahue, 316 Park Valley Drive, spoke in favor of removing the book, *Gender Queer: a Memoir*, by Maia Kobabe, permanently from the library.

Alyssa Chi, 512 Briarglen Drive, spoke in favor of retaining the book, *Gender Queer: a Memoir*, by Maia Kobabe, in the library. Ms. Chi asked that the book's location change from the Teen Graphic Novel collection to the Adult Graphic Novel collection.

Matthew Garber, 120 Heather Glen Drive, spoke in favor of retaining the book, *Gender Queer: a Memoir*, by Maia Kobabe, in the library. Mr. Garber asked that the book's location change from the Teen Graphic Novel Collection to the Adult Graphic Novel collection.

Elizabeth May, 124 Greenwood Court, spoke in favor of retaining the book, *Gender Queer: a Memoir*, by Maia Kobabe, in the library. Ms. May asked that the book's location change from the Teen Graphic Novel collection to the Adult Graphic Novel collection.

**3. Review Request for Reconsideration of Library Material**

**Dennis Quinn, Director of Library Services, reviewed the Request for Reconsideration for the book, Gender Queer: a Memoir, by Maia Kobabe, submitted by resident, Pamalee Canterbury. He discussed the library's collection development guidelines and the staff response to the Reconsideration Request which determined that the book met the library's collection development policies.**

**Dennis Quinn, Director of Library Services, Amy Pittman- Hassett, Assistant Library Director, Morgan Green-Griffin, Librarian, Jennifer Franz, Librarian, and Robert Hager, City Attorney answered Board Member questions regarding the Reconsideration Request.**

**Martha Garber, Board Vice Chair, made a motion to support the Director of Library Services' response and retain the book, Gender Queer: a Memoir, by Maia Kobabe, in the library. Board Member Anne Diamond seconded the motion. The motion did not carry (3-2) by the following vote:**

**Aye: 3 - Board Chair Frank Gasparro, Board Vice Chair Martha Garber, and Board Member Anne Diamond**

**Nay: 2 - Board Member Michelle Ostrander and Board Member Matthew Ittoop**

**Abstention - Board Member Haridas Radhakrishnan**

**Michelle Ostrander made a motion to remove the book, Gender Queer: a Memoir, by Maia Kobabe, from the library. Matthew Ittoop seconded the motion. The motion did not carry (2-3) by the following vote:**

**Aye: 2 - Board Member Michelle Ostrander and Board Member Matthew Ittoop**

**Nay: 3 - Board Chair Frank Gasparro, Board Vice Chair Martha Garber and Board Member Anne Diamond**

**Abstention - Board Member Haridas Radhakrishnan**

**Robert Hager, City Attorney, suggested that the Library Board bring forth another motion. He asked all eligible voting members to cast a vote.**

**Martha Garber, Board Vice Chair, made a motion to support the staff's response and retain the book, Gender Queer: a Memoir, by Maia Kobabe, in the library. Anne Diamond, Board Member, seconded the motion. The motion did not carry (3-3) by the following vote:**

**Aye: 3 - Board Chair Frank Gasparro, Board Vice Chair Martha Garber, and Board Member Anne Diamond**

**Nay: 3 - Board Member Michelle Ostrander, Board Member Matthew Ittoop, and Board Member Haridas Radhakrishnan**

**Michelle Ostrander, Board Member, made a motion to remove the book, Gender Queer: a Memoir, by Maia Kobabe, from the library. Matthew Ittoop,**

Board Member, seconded the motion. The motion did not carry (3-3) by the following vote:

**Aye: 3 - Board Member Michelle Ostrander, Board Member Mathew Ittoop, and Board Member Haridas Radhakrishnan**

**Nay: 3 - Board Chair Frank Gasparro, Board Vice Chair Martha Garber and Board Member Anne Diamond**

It was decided to place the Reconsideration Request on the Agenda for the March 10, 2022, Library Board Meeting. The book will remain in the collection until a decision is rendered.

**4. Approval of Minutes from January 13, 2022**

**Martha Garber, Board Vice Chair, moved to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2022 meeting. Matthew Ittoop, Board Member, seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.**

**5. Receive an Update on the Strategic Plan Process**

**Dennis Quinn, Director of Library Services, reviewed the Strategic Plan process. Staff are beginning to develop action items based on the four strategic components previously determined in the Strategic Planning Workshops. During the month of March, Dennis plans to share the staff's action items with the Board.**

**6. Director's Report**

**Dennis Quinn, Director of Library Services, shared the library's statistics with the Board. Due to inclement weather, the library was closed for two days during the first week of February. The library's metrics continue to climb. For the 17th consecutive year, the Cozby Library has earned the TMLDA Achievement In Excellence Award. Previously postponed Community Builders projects are planned for late Spring.**

**7. Board Member and Youth Advisor Reports**

**Youth Advisors Priya Kelley and Akanksha Subbarao discussed teen programs and ways to inform their peers of the various resources the library offers.**

**8. Friends of the Coppell Public Library Report**

**Frank Gasparro, Board Chair, discussed upcoming events for the Friends of the Coppell Public Library. The Friends membership renewal campaign is currently in progress. The next Friends meeting will be on February 28th. On April 2nd, there will be a pop-up book sale at the Coppell Farmer's Market.**

**9. Adjournment**

**There being no further business before the Library Advisory Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.**

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**Frank Gasparro, Library Board Chair**

**ATTEST:**

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**Laurie A. Arnold, Administrative Technician III**