



City of Coppell, Texas

255 E. Parkway Boulevard
Coppell, Texas
75019-9478

Minutes

Library Board

Thursday, April 8, 2021

7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Library Advisory Board of the City of Coppell, Texas, met in Regular Session in a Virtual Meeting.

Regular Session (Open to the Public)

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Frank Gasparro at 7:06 p.m. Other Board members present were Martha Garber, Adrienne Morton, Anne Diamond, Sherry Carr-Smith, and Michelle Ostrander. Youth Advisor Vishnu Marella was also present. Staff in attendance were Director Dennis Quinn, Assistant Director Amy Pittman-Hassett, and Library Admin Tech Laurie Arnold.

2. Approval of minutes from the March 11, 2021, meeting.

Sherry Carr-Smith moved to approve the minutes and Anne Diamond seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

3. Citizens' Forum

None.

5. Discussion regarding extended hours access.

Dennis presented a slide show detailing the progress to-date with installation of equipment and creation of policies and procedures for after-hours access to the library. Not all services will be available after hours.

The main library will be open with minimal or no staffing. The idea has had good traction in Europe. In North America, it is most common in college and university settings. The system would allow the Cozby Library to respond to citizen demand for increased service hours without increasing staff.

The service will be available to Coppell residents aged 18 or older with library accounts in good standing. Cardholders must opt-in to use the service by signing an agreement outlining the terms and conditions of use.

Martha Garber asked a question regarding the use of motion detectors during after-hours access and the viability of using volunteers in specified spots to supplement current staff. Dennis addressed the merits of the ideas and a discussion ensued.

6. Board Member and Youth Advisor's Report

Frank Gasparro presented the Board Member's Report detailing the recent presentation given to the Coppell City Council.

Vishnu Marella presented incentives to promote teen reading.

4. Director's Report

Dennis recapped the March statistics. Attendance increased when the requirement for browsing appointments was removed. In general, patron compliance with the mask mandate has been high. There has been a growing demand for study tables. Staff placed more tables, distanced appropriately on the floor. All study and meeting rooms remain closed.

The next stage of reopening will begin in May. Service hours will increase. The current five-day week will increase to a 6-day week. Due to frozen positions, it is not currently possible to reinstate the Library's complete pre-pandemic schedule. Room reservations and in-person programing will be phased in over time.

The Library has received the TLA DEMCO Upstart Award for the Meet Your Neighbor program series. The World Languages Collection shown good initial usage despite being a relative new collection.

Dennis led the group in welcoming Laurie Arnold as the Library's new Administrative Technician. This is her first official Board Meeting in such capacity.

Frank Gasparro inquired about the daily gate counts. Dennis explained that the Library is currently designed for patrons to browse, pick-up books on hold and possibly occupy a study table. Incremental reopening will continue.

7. Friends of Coppell Library Report

Adrienne Morton gave a summary of what the Friends of Coppell Library planned for National Library Week, April 4 – 10, 2021, for the staff of Cozby Library and for continued advocacy of libraries in general

The next Friends Board Meeting is Monday April 26, 2021 @7:00 p.m.

8. Library Board Goals and Objectives

Outlined in the Director's Report. The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 13th.

Adjournment

Chair Frank Gasparro adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Frank Gasparro, Library Board Chair

Laurie Arnold, Administrative Technician III