

# San Anselmo Library Advisory Board

## Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2016

The meeting was called to order by board vice chair, Elihu Welber at 4:30 pm. Those present were Tina Kroot, Dean McDonald, Elihu Welber, Scott Fletcher, Kathleen Hiatt Cutter, youth member Cameron Pey, and town librarian Linda Kenton. Ted Freeman, former library advisory board member, was the only public member in attendance.

The Library Advisory Board did not meet on July 28, 2016, as many board members were not available.

Approval of the board's May 26, 2016, is pending upon the correction of two minor corrections.

### Discussion Items

#### A. Librarian update:

1. San Anselmo's Country Fair Day will be this Saturday, September 24. The library will have a "Three Little Pigs" themed float in the parade. The library will also host a booth. As Sunday is the beginning of Banned Books Week, there will be mug shots taken of people holding the name of their favorite banned book. These photos may be posted on a social media platform or posted in the library. Additionally, there will be bags of legos to encourage booth visitors to make their own creations.
2. Melissa Merz, the new full time senior library assistant, will start this Monday, September 26. Her duties will include circulation for which she is receiving additional training. Though she hails from the Fairfax library, Ms. Merz has been working at the San Anselmo library on Thursdays for some time. Lanee Lowell, current part time library assistant, will become a full time employee to fill the Thursday gap created by Merz's new position.
3. Debra Stutsman, town manager, is retiring in February 2017. The library advisory board expresses appreciation for her years in service to San Anselmo and wishes her well in this next chapter of her life.
4. The summer reading programs experienced a slight increase in participation this year. Five hundred and fifty children signed up and 1600 children attended library programs this summer. The adult summer reading program ended yesterday. Seventy five adults participated in this program's inaugural year and met with positive feedback. Parents, caregivers, and elders participated.
5. Three day checkouts for best seller movies are working well. Many new movies are on order and will arrive after the DVD Fall release date. There is no set criteria of when to switch a movie from a three day checkout period to the seven day check out period. Potential criteria of how long movies should remain on a three day lending period are: a specified time period (three or six months), existence and length of movie queues, movie events that may increase a movie's popularity (Oscars), and when the library acquires new movies.
6. Bibliocommons, the online library platform, was launched this summer. Initially, there was a fair

number of technical issues. The library working group came up with guidelines and fielded patron questions resulting in timely answers. After the initial launch, more positive reviews were received. The lingering issue is the need for patrons to create a user name and a password to log in. Bibliocommons is a nationwide system that pools all of its usernames, so patrons may be inconvenienced by having their desired user name already taken. Additionally, if a patron has a San Francisco library membership--which also uses Bibliocommons--they will have to have an additional username for their Marin county library membership. If a patron wants to log into the ebook platforms, he or she will still use their library card number to log in.

Marinet is tallying the number of usernames created to track the new platforms success. This summer 2200 usernames were created which was more than anticipated for a summer launch. Measures of the success of this new platform require additional data. Marinet may be able to provide data as it does track the number of active library cards for each library. Additional avenues for collecting usage data have to be explored. Options may be noting the increased usage of Linked Plus, "suggestions for purchase," fines collected and observations of the popularity of social media aspects of this new format. Taking an online or in library survey of patron usage/satisfaction may be of additional use.

Librarian Leyland did a Bibliocommons training for patrons, another training will take place on Thursday, November 3. It was suggested additional trainings should occur on weekend day or weekday evening for those who could not/cannot attend the daytime trainings. Additional tutorials could be given during Wired Wednesdays or an instructional video could be posted on a web page.

The 3M ebook Library is still accessible to all of the Marinet libraries. A benefit to the Bibliocommons is that patrons can reserve an ebook within its system rather than having to exit Bibliocommons and then log into the ebook platform.

7. The next Tunstead Live is October 21 at 7:30pm. At this event the author will talk of her "Tangled Vines: Greed, Murder, Obsession, and An Arsonist in the Vineyards of California." Other library program offerings include loom weaving on October 8, a travel talk of taking a safari October 15, coloring night for adults on October 24, many story times, and more. Late fall and winter programming include a repeat of last year's December musical mornings and Celtic music in March.
8. Librarian Kenton will consult with the town staff if the library advisory board needs to adjust its meetings start time or its number of members.

## **B. Teen Council Report**

A number of successful programs occurred over summer. The teen book club resumed with the start of the new school year. The teen council was encouraged to consider publicizing what books they are reading in the teen book club.

## **C. Friends of the Library:**

A half price book sale is scheduled for this weekend at Town Books. Revenue generated by the physical bookstore is the same as that generated by Amazon sales. Amazon sales are up. It should be noted that Town Books reviews its Amazon reviews bimonthly and responds quickly to any comments. Reviews are consistently five stars out of five with an occasional four star review.

**C. Library Strategic Plan:**

Nothing to report on the library strategic plan as the library staff is waiting for the new senior library assistant, Melissa Merz, to come on board.

**Board Comments, Questions, Requests for Future Agenda Items:**

None

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday, November 17, 2016

**meeting adjourned 5:47 pm**

minutes by secretary Kathleen Hiatt Cutter