



SAN ANSELMO PUBLIC LIBRARY

## San Anselmo Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2021

The meeting, which was held remotely via Zoom videoconferencing, due to Marin County's shelter-in-place order, was called to order by the Board's chair, Doug Holm, at 4:34 p.m.

**In Attendance:** Anya Bosina, Doug Holm, Eli Welber, Judy Anderson, Karen Licavoli, Scott Fletcher, Tina Kroot, Town Librarian Linda Kenton.

**Absent:** None

No members of the public were present.

### November 2020 Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the November 12, 2020, Board meeting were reviewed and approved with minor changes.

### Discussion Items

#### 1. Librarian's Report

Town Librarian Linda Kenton provided the following updates on library operations, services and activities.

- **Holiday Closure:** The library was closed, and staff were furloughed, for the last two weeks of 2020. It reopened on Monday, January 4, and its curbside pickup services began the following day. It was unusual for all of the staff to be away from the library building for such a long period. Most Marin libraries were closed for the two-week period, and all were closed the week of Dec. 27 through January 2.
- **Winter Reading Challenge:** The library has sponsored a winter reading challenge that involves people of all ages. It is using Beanstack reading-challenge software to organize the program and track reading activity. The software was funded by the California State Library. Participants may sign up online as well as pick up reading logs at the curbside pickup site.

- **Children’s Activities:** Children’s librarian Jennie Waskey has returned from a leave of absence and has resumed work on a number of children’s programs, including a series of craft videos that will be posted online, and the popular Grab and Go Crafts for Kids, hands-on craft kits that are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the curbside pickup site. Since the weekly program launched last September, staff have prepared approximately 50 craft kits each week for children to work on at home. Most weeks, all of the kits are taken by library patrons.
- **New e-Services:** Through the MARINET Consortium, the library has added four new e-services that are accessible to patrons via their library cards/account numbers.
  - *The Wall Street Journal*;
  - NewsBank, which provides access to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Marin Independent Journal* and major newspapers from around the country;
  - JobsNow, which features online assistance, help with professional resumes, and a wide range of other tools for job seekers; and
  - Brainfuse, an online tutoring, homework-assistance, and test prep service.

## **2. Library Reopening Discussion**

Ms. Kenton also discussed the eventual reopening of the library. With the county’s stay-at-home order still in effect, staff do not plan to reopen the library building in the near future. Once the stay-at-home order is lifted, and the county enters the purple business/activity tier (Tier 1—Widespread), staff will revisit the reopening process.

Library staff had initially developed a reopening plan last summer and fall that it had expected to implement in November, but a significant increase in local Covid-19 cases prevented that from occurring. Among other aspects, the reopening plan involves allowing a limited number of patrons to browse the library’s physical collection for 30-minute periods of each hour, throughout the day.

## **3. Friends of the Library Report**

Board members Judy Anderson and Eli Welber, who also are members of the Friends of the San Anselmo Library, provided an update on that group’s activities.

- Ms. Anderson reported that Town Books, the used bookstore operated by the Friends, will be closed in January and perhaps in February as well. The store is still accepting book donations on Mondays (from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.) and on Fridays (from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.).
- Mr. Welber reported that Town Books’ online sales via the Amazon.com web site during the holiday shopping season were among the highest it has ever had.

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

Board members and Ms. Kenton suggested adding the following items to the agenda of the next Board meeting: (1) a status update on the library’s reopening plans, (2) discussion of whether to appoint a

Board liaison to the town's Library Parcel Tax Oversight Committee, and (3) a review of the impact of local no-fine library policies on the circulation of library materials.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Doug Holm at 5:54 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on **Thursday, March 11, 2021.**

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*Minutes prepared by Doug Holm*