

PALM SPRINGS LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21ST 2021
MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Michelle Dunlap, Board Members, Lenore Dirienzo, Karen Gebo, Robin Hughes, Karen Garcia and Claudia Ruiz for Jossie Maliska.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 P.M. by Chairman Michelle Dunlap.

Approval of Agenda

Robin Hughes made motion to approve. Karen Gebo seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Minutes

Lenore Dirienzo made motion to approve. Karen Gebo seconded the motion; motion carried.

Library Director's Report

- Budget for FY21/22 was approved. The second Council meeting for budget approval will be Thursday. There were not cuts to our budget and we are happy and thankful for that. This is great news compared to other libraries that are struggling. Michelle Dunlap thanked Village Council for this. In this year's budget we have included a new project, to close off the North entrance door area and remodel the area into a soundproof recording studio. Will be remodeling the staff workstations as well. The Staff North entrance door is project to be done this fiscal year. Some line items were increased, to be able to perform more outreach to our community.
- Summer Reading Program is over, and 195 books were read, 115 children signed up. Reading logs were handed out. Kids would get prizes and raffle tickets for completing their logs. There were 2 categories for the elementary age children and passport logs for the older children. Storytime videos were prerecorded, and crafts were packaged and available. We had a kickoff party with a Magician. The party was very successful the Magician was great, the kids had a lot of fun. At the end of the Summer Reading Program, we had a Storyteller, who helped with the Raffle giveaway of the gift baskets. The gift baskets had books, pens, and pencils and more. We had virtual programs available during the summer like Page Adventure Programs, where they have stories and at the end they create crafts, crafts were provided to our campers. Patrons were able to login through the Village Facebook page to be able to participate.
- Mobile Outreach Library, the Library teamed up with Salvation Army. This was a series of 7 weeks, twice a week, together we enjoyed going out to local communities. This was a successful event; Village Council and the Village Manager were very pleased. An article about this summer success was mentioned on the Lake Worth Herald and Coastal Observer newspapers. The residents thanked us while we were out and asked if we can offer more of these types of services.
- Residents commented that they would like to have help with immigration questions. Therefore, we were able reach out to The Florida Bar Speakers Bureau and set a date for a presentation about Immigration, Citizenship and Naturalization this event will be virtual and bilingual. The presenter will be Ilene Marie Tognini, Attorney at Law.

- Because the library is doing more outreach, the Village Manager, is considering a vehicle for the Library Staff.
- Rec on the Go. We worked together with Parks and Recreation, joined them on Thursdays for a little over a month promoting the library in different parks. Library staff gave out information, crafts while Parks and Rec had outdoor games for the residents. This type of event will be continued in the Fall. Library staff was brainstorming and thinking of including something more to this event for the library, like a STEAM program outdoors, a story walk or live Storytime. Board Member asked, “how would people know about this event?” Karen Garcia mentioned that Parks and Recreation takes care of all the marketing for this event.
- NLC Census Grant and Youth Ambassador program awarded. Staff’s idea was to reach out to as many children as possible, so we offered schools to participate. The objective was for teachers to present information about the Census, and Civics to the students. The teachers needed to show an outline of how they would include it, into their lesson plan and take pictures. The schools that participated were awarded \$2500.00.
- Hurricane Preparedness Event at Home Depot. This is an annual event, and library staff worked closely with the Police Department. The event took place on a Saturday in the Home Depot premises. One of our Library Associates was present promoting the library and services we offer.
- Library Programs. Board members were provided with flyers and information of the programs we have monthly. English Café is a virtual program, and you can find the link to join through the Village Facebook page. Fall and Holiday Adult Craft Programs are available, since we are closed for the public, we are calling the participants to stop by and pick up their craft packages. The library associates are also putting a how-to video. Our new staff member created a new program, NFL Discussion event for the teens. Will be working on reaching out to the high school students to provide information on our services. We are Looking to engage more students with the STEAM program and get them motivated to bring in new ideas. Looking to restart the teen Advisory Board. Computer classes and book a librarian are on hold since we are closed to the public. Book Discussion was currently Hybrid, but this month it will be virtually only. Bilingual Storytime is virtually through our YouTube channel and Facebook page.
- Director attended the Library Cooperative of the Palm Beaches annual meeting where she signed the agreement to continue services.
- Jossie attended the Florida Department of State Public Library Directors Meeting. All libraries were giving their COVID protocol updates, most of them have been closed and will start to reopen sometime in October. We’ve been the only ones that have been open the longest. Council Members agreed that we were providing services that no one else was like the curbside pick-up for books.
- Hoopla. The library is offering this new service, this is a digital platform where you can download movies, music, and books for free. This is to provide a variety of resources digitally. This is a website and there is an app also, free to patrons with the use of your library card.
- Tutor.com is also a new service we are providing, if a child needs a tutor grades K-12, in any subject they can access it for free, just with the use of their library card. The live services are available from 3PM-10PM by chat or voice call or both. This new service also offers preparation for SAT, ACT, GED. They have resume reviews, as well as writing reviews, and help with job searching. A
- Read for The Record. This year will be filming another video, the book selected this year is Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon. A script was created, and Council member will be coming in to record their parts of the video. This year will have to show why this municipality is unique in the video. What we have come up with is that the village has plenty to do around the village complex in a walking distance. We have the library, the mini golf park, a water park, the basketball court,

fields, and parks. The story is about a dragon that is created by a little girl, so we have purchased an inflatable dragon that will be featured in the video and will be chasing one of the Council members. This video will be shared with the schools that are not letting visitors in because of their COVID protocols. Will be reading in person in some schools, Kirklane Elementary school does want us in-person. We are still in working on getting confirmation from other schools and daycares. Library Associate, Yamauris is working on editing the video and he is doing a great job.

Unfinished Business

- Emergency access Staff door, P.O. will be reopened once the new fiscal year starts so we may get this project started.
- On September 27th will have a new south entrance door installed.

New Business

- New Library Director, Jossie Maliska
- New Administrative Assistant, Claudia Ruiz
- New Children's Librarian, Karen Garcia
- New Library Associates, Tiffany Gresh de Berry and Yamauris Caminero.
- Library maintenance is happening at the library, we are deep cleaning and also doing some touch-up painting around the library. Jossie's and Karen's office were also painted.
- We have increased our budget for book purchases. Jossie wants us to continue ordering more books, the Director wants us to continue ordering as often as possible. The problem we have encountered is that with COVID the delivery of books has slowed down significantly because they do not have enough staff.

Miscellaneous

- Saturday, we had our Hispanic Heritage Celebration, we finally were able to have this event. This event was a sponsored one. We had a chihuahua race, food trucks, Mariachis, Zumba class, Piñatas for kids. Although the event was not promoted as much as we would of like to, it was a successful event. Library staff went out to businesses to pass out flyers a few days before.

Public Comment

- N/A

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be October 19th, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Robin Hughes made motion to adjourn meeting. Lenore Dirienzo seconded motion; meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia M. Ruiz
Library Administrative Assistant