



M U R R A Y
L I B R A R Y

Board of Trustees Regular Session Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Present: Traci Black, Pepper Pehrson, Vicki Matsumori, Sage Fitch, Drew Pearson, Brent Gardner, Nick Skene

Excused:

Others: Kim Fong; Murray Library Director, Julia Pehrson; Murray Assistant Library Director, Kristin Bilson; Murray Library Staff

- 1. Call to Order:** President Black called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
2.1 The minutes for the October 2018 meeting were approved, as is, on a motion made by Pepper Pehrson, seconded by Drew Pearson. Voting was unanimous in favor.
- 3. Public Comment** None
- 4. Financial Reports**
33% of the year has elapsed. Director Fong said that the library is close to budget on everything except adult periodicals, which was previously mentioned, and money will be transferred over to cover that. Sage Fitch had a question about the increase in revenue for copies. Director Fong said that could be from patrons faxing documents and possibly an increase in patrons using computers due to Holladay Library closing for renovations.
Vicki Matsumori made a motion to receive and file the financial reports, seconded by Sage Fitch. Voting was unanimous in favor.
- 5. Board Reports**
President Black thanked Board members for how prepared everyone was for the Director's review. She said she really appreciated the thoughtfulness and very careful Consideration that was taken and that it was a smooth and logical process.
Director Fong said she appreciated her review and the comments she received.

6. **Director's Report**

Director Fong gave a report on Our Records. Library Journal released their Star ratings for 2018. Last year, Murray Library was given a 3-star designation. This year, Murray Library received a 4-star designation. Director Fong gave an overview of the rating system and how the process works.

Libraries are compared with libraries of similar budgets in 5 categories: Circulation, Visits, eBook Circulation, Computer Use, and Program Attendance. The statistical reports that are sent to the State Library go into a National database and the Library Journal ranks everyone. The top 30 in each category qualify for stars. Top 10 receive five stars, the next 10 receive four stars and the last 10 receive three stars. It is an honor to be on the list. Three libraries in Utah were selected this year. The City Library, Murray Library, and Lewiston Library. Murray Library did exceptionally well in Program Attendance. That includes programs in the library, outreach programs, and StoryTube. Director Fong said that, while it is a nice accolade to be called a Star Library, we don't know that we can continue to be a Star Library because the library doesn't have a lot of control over the statistics and numbers. Director Fong feels that the library is getting a good return on investment, and while it is nice to get accolades, we really need to be thinking about what the library's mission is and what the library is trying to accomplish. She said the vision statement of Open New Worlds is really what the library is trying to focus on. The library still strives to be Your Friendly Hometown Library. That is what the library's emphasis is. Director Fong reminded the Board of the Library's values of being kind, accommodating, and having fun. And commented on how the library portrays those values every day to patrons, so people feel like they are being treated well when they come to the library. This is important, but also not something you can see in any numbers on a page. Director Fong said that the library's focus is reading, learning creativity, and making community connections. Those ideas are the standard when there are conversations about what's happening in the library and trying new things.

7. **Old Business**

The Tooele Library director will be at January's meeting to talk to the Board about eliminating library fines. Nick Skene asked about the Director's initial comment or reaction. Director Fong said she appreciates that the Library was being thoughtful about the decision and she was glad to come in January because it will be a year from when they did away with fines, so she will be able to give some good figures about the change. President Black asked if there were any other barriers that weren't discussed. Director Fong said that Student library cards were also something to be considered. President Black asked if kids were asking for cards in order to check items out. Director Fong said sometimes and that it was more for computer use, and a student card wouldn't solve that problem because the library has a parental permission policy for computer use and DVD check outs. Brent Gardner asked if there was a way to get the parent's permission without the parent coming into the library. Director Fong explained the process of getting a library card and that

it requires the parent getting a library card first and then the child's card is attached. Brent Gardner expressed concerns about the library imposing limitations on the computers and DVDs.

Vicki Matsumori said the Board needs to look at policy because the Board sets policies and needs to look at what is the library's obligation to the patrons and their children. The suggestion was made to review the policy about parental permissions at the next meeting. Sage Fitch asked about parental type restrictions on the computers. Director Fong said that there are filters in place according to State law. Sage asked to look at the demand for student cards and whether it would add benefit in the long term.

8. New Business

Director Fong introduced Julia Pehrson as the new Assistant Director. She said Julia has been with the library over 20 years. Julia started as a page when she was in high school and has held many roles within the library system. Julia is always the person that everyone goes to when they have a question. Director Fong said Julia is very knowledgeable about all things Murray Library and that Julia is a natural leader and a great asset to the library.

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Brent Gardner, seconded by Pepper Pehrson. Voting was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.