

Radford Public Library

Board Meeting

Monday, November 4, 2019 at 5:00 PM

Present: Nishant Grover, Wilson Rankin, Tommie Bloomer, Betty Overdorf, Sonya Nicely, Claudia Jones and Annyce Levy

Absent:

I. Old Business

A. August 2019 minutes were approved.

B. Revisit City Council Dinner

The group discussed bringing back the tradition of hosting and offering a meal to City Council at RPL and giving them a presentation/tour. One aspect requiring consideration is finding funding for a meal or securing a restaurant to provide a meal. The current Council is comprised of members who support the library and many attend programs or use library services with some regularity. At this time the group decided not to pursue a City Council Dinner. Another idea surfaced which is updating the Children's Garden Area and inviting the City Council for an 'unveiling' or celebration about the space.

C. Library as fine-free

Wilson recounted hearing a young boy coming in to the library with great enthusiasm and his parents told staff that their son had been excited to come to the library since early in the morning and had been waiting for the library to open.

Questions the Board asked regarding the possibility of going fine-free include the following:

Where does the fine money go?

What is the fine amount in the bank?

Does going fine-free improve circulation?

How many blocked cards are there?

How much money is there in lost books?

How do we get more kids to come to the library?

II. New Business

A. A Virginia Tech grant application has been submitted on behalf of the VT Engineering Department, the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology, and RPL, Roanoke County Library and Pearisburg Library. This grant is for advancing informal STEM learning. The grant approval or rejection should be made by April or May of 2020.

III. Staffing

- A. Cataloger Broyles resigned to take a full time job out of state.
- B. We are pursuing the option of having a part-time designated staff member for the teens.
- C. Job descriptions in all positions have either been updated for the City or are in progress.

IV. Budget

We are on schedule with the budget.

V. Misc.

- A. RPL is looking for volunteers for the Tree Lighting Ceremony on 12/3/19.