LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 3, 2021
Virtual Meeting hosted through WebEx
Meeting Link:
https://auroragov.webex.com/auroragov/j.php?MTID=m68c9abc350be8b55cc65640cf0b093b5
Meeting Number: 2498 265 9706
Password: COA-LIB

I. CALL TO ORDER
Brenda Perea called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM. Those in attendance were: Paula Vargas, Brenda Perea, Shannon Day, Nora McIntyre
Absent: Shameka Alford
Staff members present: Jo McNeal, Abraham Morales, Alia Gonzales (recording secretary)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Nora moved to approve the minutes from December 2, 2021. Paula seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS
None at this time.

IV. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD
No members of the public present at this time.

V. OLD BUSINESS
1. Brenda attended the Ward VI meeting. Discussion took place ensuring all board members had the necessary information to attend their assigned ward meetings. Paula will begin attending Wards II and III. Brenda will continue to attend Ward VI. Nora will attend Ward I. Shannon will attend Ward V. Shameka will attend Ward IV. Communication will take place prior to any At-Large meetings to determine which board member is most available to attend.

VI. NEW BUSINESS
The Poet Laureate program is kicking off. Paula will be working to reach out to City Council members to invite them to participate in the selection process. Abraham will work with internal City staff to determine the best way to market the program for applications. The current timeline aims to have a new Poet Laureate announced in April. Abraham will work with Paula to make sure all documents are up to date and the processes required have been appropriately updated. Paula will continue to provide updates to the Board by way of email as she works on this process between board meetings.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR
1. Nora asked if APL has been impacted by the recent surge in requests for libraries and schools to ban books. At this time no requests have been made, however staff did share the process and the “Request for Reconsideration” form with the board to ensure everyone was familiar with the process if a member of the public should request an item be removed. To date APL has never removed an item from the collection, however some items have been moved to another category such as items moving from children’s to young adult, or from young adult to the adult collection.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR
1. Jo shared that Chambers Plaza is moving along with a soft opening planned for March 1. The Collection Development Librarian is currently working on building the collection for that location.
2. Jo also shared that over recent weeks APL has distributed thousands of KN95 masks and these masks are currently available at all locations. As of Saturday February 5 masks will no longer be required for visitors at city facilities however staff will continue to wear them.
3. Abraham shared the Year-End statistics covering January 2021 through December 2021 with the board. All statistics showed continued growth and improvement over 2020 and are expected to continue growing as the pandemic continues to abate.
4. Central has significant new artwork and is also in the process of a refine and redesign project. This will include new furniture for most of the building and is hoped to be completed by mid-April.
5. In addition to the refine and redesign process Jo is also working to create the “Next Chapter for the Aurora Public Library” which includes focusing on redefining the customer service model that is provided to customers. This focuses on creating the most welcoming environment possible, not just with the library appearance but also with staff approachability. Job descriptions are also being reviewed to ensure the appropriate individuals have the tools necessary to complete their job duties including all programming needs.
6. Abraham shared that Aurora Scholars is expected to take place in person this year and will be held April 26, 27, and 28 at the Aurora Central Library.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE MEMBERS
No items from the members at this time.

X. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
Volunteer Hours - The Board members submitted their volunteer hours for November.

XI. NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS
The next meeting will take place April 7 and will be hosted virtually through WebEx.

XII. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM.
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