

Tillamook County Library Board Minutes
Thursday, August 22, 2024; 12:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting

Board Members Present:

Timothy Josi, Sayde Walker, Nan Devlin, Madeline Olson, Jennifer Byrne

Staff, Commissioner, and Others Present:

Don Allgeier, Luke Kralik, Brittany Maffin, Danielle Meininger

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Sayde Walker at 12:01 p.m. on Thursday August 22, 2024.

Public Input:

None

Approval of July 2024 Minutes and Budget:

Meeting minutes for the July 2023, Board Meeting of the Tillamook County Library were unanimously approved.

July 2024 Budget and Spending Report:

The library started a new fiscal year. We can see a little higher spending at the beginning of the year. The initial spending can be a little higher for licensing etc., but it evens out over the course of the year. Motion to approve library spending for August was approved and carried.

Director's Report:

- The library roof and exterior construction project contract was approved by the Board of County Commissioners. The work will begin by focusing on the exterior siding and gutters followed by the replacement of a section of the roof over the bookstore section of the library. There were some permit hiccups, and we are hoping to start next week.
- The water feature statue in the Maxwell Library Park has been removed for repair. It will return to the park as a statue without a fountain. The foundation will be considering new options for the fountain in the coming months.
- Reminder that there will be additional work on the park, which includes a labyrinth. This is the final piece of the park.
- Courtney Remington and I (Don Allgeier) attended the Bywater Solutions Summit at the Benton-Corvallis Public Library to learn more about the Koha Integrated Library System. We are getting excited about this change as we have heard that Koha is a much easier system to customize. We have a go live date of March 10th, 2025.
- The library gallery space began hosting Oregon's Dino-Story, an exhibit

curated by the Museum of Natural and Cultural History at the University of Oregon. We have had a robust number of visitors to this cool travelling showcase of prehistoric Oregon.

- Summer Reading 2024 finished up on August 17th with the Summer Reading Party. The library had 967 sign ups to participate this year including 587 kids aged 0-11. Nearly 400 people completed Summer Reading this year. In September the library will begin a process for evaluating and reworking the program for next year with a focus on kids with the greatest barriers to accessing the program. We will be assessing how to make it easier for kids to sign up for summer reading, especially children outside of Tillamook or those without as much home support.
- The Summer Music Series inaugural year has been great. As the summer has continued, the audience has grown. The library has learned a lot in this first year and look forward to applying what we learned to next year's series.
- The library is officially launching the CultureGrams database this month. CultureGrams is a leading reference for concise, reliable, and up-to-date cultural information on the countries of the world. It includes reports on more than 200 countries, each with information on daily life and culture, including the history, customs, and lifestyles of the world's people. This will help to provide up to date resources without having to purchase new physical materials about each country yearly.
- Let's Talk About Tourism Program – Jenn Wells moderated, and Jennifer Byrne attended. There were 10 people in attendance and the meeting went fairly well. Jennifer Byrne suggested that there be a template for managing expectations and ground rules for the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to explore thoughts and opinions, not necessarily to come to a concrete solution. Some attendees did have frustration over a lack of resolution. We have a volunteer who will be taking on some of the moderating duties.

Data Dashboard

This is a new fiscal year for the data collection. Usage tracking is moving toward using individual sessions as a unit of measure. The number of volunteers is increasing and has been a positive change. We have three new databases we will be tracking moving forward, which are CultureGrams, New York Times, and World Book. Question regarding the jump in Kanopy usage. The increase could be due to the addition of the application to more TV platforms. We have also started promoting all of our online resources with brochures and fliers at the branches.

Foundation Update

The foundation has supported the cost of the Shakespeare program. They have also supported the transformation of the statue. They are also working on the final pieces of the park. A board member wondered what are we going to do when the park is finished? Are there plans for another project? There is always room to adjust and improve the park. We are looking forward

to using the park to its fullest capacity with the Shakespeare program. It is unclear if there is a new large project in the works.

Strategic Plan Dashboard

Old Business: Strategic Plan Implementation

- There were no major changes due to library staff feedback. The one thing of note is the discussion around Spanish language materials and adding them to the branches as well. The strategic plan was unanimously approved to move forward.

New Business: Website Analytics

- Systems Librarian Danielle Meininger explained the way that we obtain our website analytics. We use Google Analytics to give us insight into our website activity. We have seen an increase in our users, page views, and event counts over the fiscal year 22-23 to 23-24.
- The highest used pages have remained consisted from last year to this year. Our “new items” page has the highest user time length by far. The calendar is also a page with very high traffic.
- Wireless printing took a dive down, but this does not indicate that the users fell drastically. This could indicate that users are more comfortable with the service and no longer need to reference the webpage for direction.
- The notary public webpage has moved into the top 25 most used pages.
- The website does seem to be drawing in people and keeping them engaged. Danielle has made some improvements including new navigation pages for our online resources, fixing accessibility issues, applying standard display elements to the event calendar, and adding appropriately sized banners to the home screen.
- Some challenges to the coming year will be to integrate the new catalog with our website so that patrons have a seamless experience. Our catalog will have its own website, but we want to create an experience that does not make users feel disoriented.
- Don Allgeier adds that the benefits of having a systems librarian is very clear. A lot of progress has been made in a short period of time.
- A board member commented that the addition of the data tracking feels like a step in the right direction to get a stronger feel of what the patrons are using and shaping our plans from those numbers. Appreciation for the consistent analysis of our programs and procedures was expressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.