



CITY OF SWEET HOME LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

May 08, 2025, 4:30 PM
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Eva Journey
Vice Chair Kelsey Hicks
Board Member Jen Castaneda
Board Member Jim Corley
Board Member Caryn Wise

COUNCIL

Councilor Chelsea Augsburg, Council Liaison

STAFF

Megan Dazey, Library Services Director
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager
Cecily Hope Pretty, Deputy City Manager

Review & Approval of Minutes

- a) 2025-04-10 Library Board Meeting Minutes

Board Member Castaneda moved to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2025 Library Board Meeting. Board Member Corley seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Journey, Hicks, Castaneda, Corley, Wise

NAY: None

Report of the Library Services Director

- a) Report of Library Director April/May 2025

Director Dazey stated that approximately 300 titles had been moved to the new tween section to date. She noted that circulation statistics had improved on tween books following the move. She noted that the picnic table had been restored and was well-used for its intended purposes. She stated that grant funds totaling \$10,000 were received to move forward with a new ADA-compliant door. She added that she intended to host community conversations about additional accommodations that may be desired by the community.

Chair Journey asked of the anticipated cost for the door. Director Dazey replied that they were in the process of securing quotes but anticipated it would be between \$3,000 and \$7,000. Chair Journey asked

of enhancing ADA access to the front door. Director Dazey replied that the age and layout of the building may make such a project cost-prohibitive.

Director Dazey stated that staff anticipated having the summer activity calendar ready the following week and it would include countywide events. She noted that the summer reading theme was "Level Up at Your Library." She stated that funding was recently pulled from a grant program to assist local youth to create a video about combatting misinformation. She noted that she was looking at additional grants to acquire more books for tweens and kids in the summer reading program. She highlighted that she attended the Oregon Library Association Conference in Eugene in April and that she presented on public library/school partnerships.

Chair Journey asked Director Dazey to highlight her upcoming participation in Libraries Advancing Community Learning to Reduce Substance Use. Director Dazey stated that she was selected to receive a full travel stipend to the meeting in Kansas City, at which a select group of librarians would begin writing a workbook advising libraries on substance use reduction through therapeutic use of literature (bibliotherapy).

No action was required for this item.

Statistics

a) Library Statistics for April 2025

Director Dazey stated that statistics were on track to be the same or better than the previous year and noted an uptick in visitors with the temporary Native American exhibit.

No action was required for this item.

Fiscal Report

There was no fiscal report to be heard.

Old Business

There was no old business to be heard.

New Business

a) SHPL Newsletter May 2025

Director Dazey asked for Board feedback on newsletter content.

Councilor Augsburger suggested highlighting library staff and their favorite books.

Chair Journey expressed support for the format and for the inclusion of new book titles in various age ranges. She noted that keeping it limited to two pages was effective. She suggested checking the reading level of the newsletter to ensure it was accessible to the community.

Discussion ensued regarding placement of library newsletters in Free Little Libraries.

Director Dazey asked for feedback regarding the inclusion of new books. Board Member Wise stated that a variety across genres was recommended.

No action was required for this item.

b) Discussion on any questions/ideas that came up during May 7th Open House

Director Dazey requested feedback from the Board resulting from the Open House. Discussion ensued regarding challenges in engaging the community and getting additional attendees at events.

Chair Journey suggested working within the consortium to identify best practices regarding public outreach.

Board Member Corley suggested inviting local authors to offer book signings at the same time as other library events to drive turnout.

Board Member Castaneda asked how many attendees were at the Open House. Director Dazey replied that there were 25-30 who were there specifically for the event.

No action was required for this item.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:06 PM.


Chair

ATTEST:


Library Services Director, Secretary to the Board