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Cochise County Library District

"Public programs...personal service"

Minutes of the **October 17, 2018** meeting of
The Cochise County Library District Citizen Liaison Council

The meeting came to order at 12:57 pm at the Sierra Vista Public Library in Sierra Vista.

Members and guests present: Suzanne Harvey (Huachuca City); Diane Hildebrandt (Huachuca City); Anne Krause (Willcox); Jeannine Lockwood (Chair, Benson); Jayne McClure (Tombstone); Amadee Ricketts (CCLD); Alvin Slarve (Sierra Vista); Marcia Spitler (Tombstone).

Absent: Bisbee's Copper Queen Library, Douglas Public Library, Willcox's Elsie S. Hogan Library

Lockwood asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on April 18, 2018. Spitler made the motion and Ricketts seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Member reports:

Tombstone City Library: Marcia Spitler and Jayne McClure shared updates from Tombstone.

The 2018 summer reading program was very successful. Children's events were held in the Book Nook, which allowed for more space than the library building.

McClure reported that the library in Tombstone has started offering free reading glasses for the public as part of the Lions Club ALERT (Arizona Lions Eyeglass Recycle Terminal) program. Nonprescription reading glasses are collected, checked, and cleaned by the Lions, and then made available to libraries and other community organizations at no charge. Participating libraries are only responsible for making them available.

If other Cochise County libraries are interested in this service, contact Jayne (isaj1052@yahoo.com / 520-224-8666) for more information.

The town and library in Tombstone are still exploring a range of possibilities regarding a new or expanded space for the library. If the library were to move to a larger space, the existing space in the train depot would be great for a museum.

The moving/expansion idea is still in its early stages, and any progress will depend on future grants and fundraising... but people are definitely excited about the possibilities!

The Friends will hold a big book sale this weekend (October 19-21) as part of Helldorado Days.

Sierra Vista Public Library: Alvin Slarve shared an update from Sierra Vista. A few highlights are summarized here, and his full report is attached to the minutes.

Mr. Slarve and the members of the Library Advisory Commission have been pleased to see the elimination of restrictions on new books circulating among libraries, and continuing progress toward One County, One Card.

Activity at SVPL continues to grow, with a wide range of programs and services. In August the library saw a record number of visitors (16,259!), and added 285 new patrons.

The Friends of the Sierra Vista Public Library have opened a new bookstore location at 2243 E. Fry Blvd., and they report an uptick in visitors and sales at the new location.

A new Friends group will be working with the book sale space in the library, and they are planning a grand opening on October 27 at 10 am.

The library is offering discovery packs and fitness kits in addition to their other special collections. Many of the items have been donated and all the kits promote hands-on, experiential learning.

Huachuca City Library: Diane Hildebrandt shared updates on the Huachuca City Library and the Friends of Huachuca City Library. (Suzanne Harvey arrived later, and had additional library news.)

Hildebrandt reported: Last week's LibraryCon was a big success, with more than 100 visitors each day.

The new Digital Literacy Center is off to a good start, and there is an ad for it in the current issue of the *Trading Post* (10/17/18).

The speakers' series is going well. The next speaker will be Charles Hancock, presenting a history of the Buffalo Soldiers on October 18.

The Wi-Fi Hotspot lending program has been very popular and meets an important need in Huachuca City. The Friends will be able to maintain two hotspots after grant funding ends, but the library is looking for other funding sources as well.

The Friends are working to get their CONEX container (used for books) moved before the New Year. They are hoping for better visibility in a new location. They held a naming contest for the CONEX, and "Sun City Books" was the winning name. The container will be painted accordingly, and along with a new spot that will help people find it and buy more books!

There will be a craft fair in Huachuca City on November 3, and the Friends will also hold a book and bake sale in November. They have found that adding a bake sale brings in more people than a book sale on its own.

The Friends are interested in adding a garden-scale wooden train in the Discovery Garden. A train will be fun year-round, but will also be a terrific addition to the annual Polar Express program.

Jayne McClure from Tombstone mentioned that if the HC Friends want assistance with this project, they might reach out to the Cochise & Western Model Railroad Club (680 Fort Ave., Sierra Vista).

Amadee Ricketts from the Library District noted that the Huachuca City Library Director, Suzanne Harvey, will be awarded the 2018 Emerging Leader Award at the Arizona Library Association Conference next week (10/26/18) in recognition of her great work in Huachuca City.

Willcox's Elsie S. Hogan Library: Anne Krause shared an update from Willcox.

The summer reading program was a big success, with 75 children participating and lots of fun events.

People in Willcox are excited about One Card; this is especially true for families like Anne's with kids who love to read.

The library is working on a new five-year strategic plan.

Library Director Tom Miner shared a more detailed update which is attached to these minutes.

There was some group discussion about how to get children excited about reading. Mr. Slarve mentioned efforts in Sierra Vista including the Library Advisory Commission giving free books to children at the annual Trunk-or-Treat event. Amadee Ricketts highlighted the Library District's grant-funded Free Book Boxes in rural areas, and the new storytime and early literacy programs being developed by the Chiricahua Community Health Centers (starting with the new Pediatric Center of Excellence in Douglas). Jeannine Lockwood and other members noted Little Free Libraries and similar books boxes popping up in Benson, Sierra Vista, and around the county.

Benson Public Library: Jeannine Lockwood provided an update from Benson.

Library Director Kelli Jeter has renewed her Library Practitioner Certification, and attended the State Library-sponsored Small Library Managers and Directors meeting in Prescott in September.

The fall storytime season is underway. The program is presented by Kay Doolan, an excellent volunteer.

The Friends of the Benson Public Library have placed collections of large print books at Quiburi Mission and another assisted living facility as a way to reach out to the residents.

There have been several recent improvements to the library space in Benson recently, including new tile work near the entrance. Everyone is invited to stop by and see how nice it looks.

The Friends offered popcorn and soda at the Movies in the Park program over the summer, which was a big hit.

At approximately 2 pm, the meeting broke for a tour of the library led by Adult Services Librarian Susan Abend.

After the tour, Huachuca City Library Director Suzanne Harvey joined the meeting in progress.

Huachuca City Library: Suzanne Harvey shared additional news from Huachuca City, with a focus on library programs.

The Huachuca City Library has been exceptionally busy this fall, offering public programs every day, including: Fun with Math and Science, a preschool enrichment program funded by a grant from the Arizona Rural Activation and Innovation Network (www.4azrain.org); Computer workshops and digital drop-in sessions in the new Digital Literacy Center funded by and LSTA grant from the Arizona State Library; Crazy 8s Math Club; an adult speakers' program; LEGO Club; Fun Fridays with STEAM; a new Healthy Communities group; and a grant-funded Coding Club.

One program they are excited about is a basic electronics class taught by a worker from Project Ayuda, a federally funded senior community employment program. (More information about Project Ayuda is available online:

<http://www.mycommunitypt.com/arizona/index.php/component/cpx/?task=resource&id=428960&tab=1>

<http://www.anppm.org/default.cfm?PID=1.2.6.2>

LibraryCon was fun and very well-attended, with 175 people visiting the library on Poke-Monday, which included all kinds of interactive Pokemon activities. Medieval Day was also very popular.

Director's Report:

Amadee Ricketts offered some statistics and highlights from the 2017-2018 fiscal year, and from the Cochise County Librarian's Report which will be presented at the County Librarians Meeting later this month. See attached handouts.

One County, One Card progress report:

Ricketts shared an update on the One County, One Card project.

In addition to the progress reported in April (eliminating Local Request restrictions, introducing the new library catalog), the Library District has worked with the branches and member libraries to eliminate old and inactive patron records, as well as old uncollectible fines and fees. Some of the old fines dated to 1996, when the online system was introduced.

Credit card processing:

The latest stage of the project has been the implementation of credit card payments at all libraries, and online payments at 11 of the libraries in Cochise County. Along with offering improved convenience for patrons, this service will help ease the transition to One Card by making it easy for patrons to settle existing library accounts without having to visit multiple libraries.

Next steps:

Over the next several months, the rural branch libraries will work to consolidate patron records and eliminate duplicates. This will serve as a small-scale model of countywide One Card implementation.

Once the branch libraries have completed this process and analyzed any snags or difficulties that arise, the larger group of libraries will move forward with One Card implementation. This will require several steps.

The Library District hopes to complete the project by mid-2019.

Call to the public: No members of the public attended.

For the good of the order: Jayne McClure shared information about the Tombstone Vigilettes. The Vigilettes present lots of fun events in Tombstone, and they are available to present history-themed programs for children and adults. Contact Jayne (isaj1052@yahoo.com / 520-224-8666) or find the Vigilettes on Facebook for details.

The next official meeting date will be the third Wednesday in April (2019), which is April 17. Vigilante Hall in Tombstone will be the host site if it is available (Jayne McClure will check). If the space is not available, Sierra Vista and Bisbee are possible backup locations.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amadee Ricketts