

Salem Public Library Advisory Board

Salem Public Library

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Salem Public Library Advisory Board

Board Members

Francine Boullosa
Gretchen Coppedge
Katherine Daniels (Vice Chairman)
Bill Distad
Sarah Bishop
Denise Duren
Lois Stark (Chairman)
Callen Sterling
Stephen Rosen

City Staff

Sarah Strahl, City Librarian
Clarissa Maciel-Garibay, Staff Assistant

Next Meeting: Wed., Aug. 11, 2021

www.cityofsalem.net

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Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, June 9th, 2021

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting

The meeting will be available on

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuw7eUMqW0fgwHhj8h1ECIQ>

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - Wednesday, May 12th, 2021
3. Public Comment
(Appearance of persons wishing to address the Board on any matter other than those which appear on this Agenda.)
4. Information Items
 - Teen Advisory Board (TAB) update
 - Chair's report
 - City Librarian's report
 - Friends of SPL report
 - SPL Foundation report
5. Discussion Items
 - Ethics Training (Michelle Teed)
 - TAB Donation (Francine)
 - July Meeting Proposal (Lois)
 - Meeting Room Fees (Lois)
 - LAB input into Strategic Plan (Katherine)
6. Action Items
 -
7. Miscellaneous Board Items
 -
8. Adjournment

June City Librarian's Report

Staff News

Hiring!

Interviews are ongoing for three Library Assistant positions. The scheduling team is working hard to create new master schedules for when the Main Library is opened again. Managers and a few staff will be changing schedules by September 1 to accommodate the new space and add extra depth to the schedule.

Library Spaces

New Meeting Room Policy

In May 2020, the Library's Outreach and Programming Committee began the work of crafting a new Library Meeting Room Policy, which had not been updated since 2007. The project necessarily entailed the reexamination of what was called "Library sponsorship." Library sponsorship, in practice, was a handshake agreement allowing ongoing programs to be run by community groups in the Library's meeting rooms for free without the involvement of Library staff. These informal agreements were inequitable and had not been vetted by our legal representation. There were no established criteria for sponsorship. Having no guidelines around how the Library chose to extend sponsorship made the Library vulnerable to being forced into sponsorship relationships with groups whose goals and values did not at all align with the Library's. Other community groups (and even Library and other City staff) were often unable to use Library spaces due to the open-ended nature of Library sponsored group meetings and events. The Library risked implicitly endorsing the actions or words of the groups acting under Library sponsorship. There were documented instances of Library sponsored groups excluding patrons from events due to disability and neurodiversity.

The Library Partnership Statement represents a new model of engagement with community groups inside the Library built on a partnership foundation, with the Library being key in the planning and implementation of discrete (not ongoing) programs. In conjunction with the new Library Meeting Room Policy, the new partnership model embodied in the Library Partnership Statement will allow for meeting spaces that are flexible, equitable, and accessible to many more members of our increasingly diverse community. The new fee schedule also allows for a reduced meeting room rate (half-off) for government or 501(c3) organizations and offers our smallest meeting room, the Plaza Room, free to these non-profit groups. Library meeting spaces remain readily available to all groups in our community for a modest fee, with reservations available 90 days in advance on a first-come, first-served basis.

Salem Public Library is not alone in implementing a specific statement addressing library partnerships; adopting such language is considered "exemplary" in the Oregon Library Association's Public Library Division's [Public Library Standards](#).

Library Partnership Statement

The Salem Public Library pursues a limited number of partnership opportunities for and events that bring value to the community and are aligned with the Library's mission. Partnership is defined as Library-hosted programs coordinated and attended by Library staff working with an outside entity (Partner) in Library facilities, supported and co-marketed by the Library. Agreements between the Library and partners must be beneficial to all parties. In particular, these relationships should further the Library's goals in one or more of the following ways:

1. Increase Library visibility in the community;
2. Support Library activities, services, events and programs;
3. Enhance or create ways to respond to identified community needs.

Collections

Grants and Giveaways

The library was awarded a *Libros for Oregon Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)* grant to purchase high-quality, culturally relevant books in Spanish for our Hispanic/Latinx community members directly from the International Book Fair in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Library staff delivered giveaway books and literacy materials for adults and Books 4 Kids kits for children to families in temporary shelters at Cascade Gateway Park.

Events

Summer Reading Time is here again

Let's Talk Books, the library's limited series of virtual book discussions for adults, met on May 19 via Zoom to discuss *Here Comes the Sun* by Nicole Dennis-Benn.

On May 21 the library was a sponsor for a Zoom Q&A with Hood River author Eileen Garvin (*The Music of Bees*) and best-selling author J. Ryan Stradal put on by Dutton, an imprint of Penguin Random House.

Books Please!, the teen book discussion group, had its final meeting for the season on May 19 and talked about "Steelheart" by Brandon Sanderson. Teen book discussions will now pause until the library operations return to the Main Library.

Bucket of Words, the teen writing group, also met in May and will continue as a virtual event through the summer.

A Teen Art and Jackbox Drawing Games Night brought together a lively group on May 20, creating art together in different ways.

The final sessions of Songwriting for Tweens and Teens with Mo Phillips on May 1, 8, and the live session on May 15 were a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. The workshop was funded by a grant from the Marion Cultural Development Corporation.

Our May Take & Make Craft Kits offered Squishy Circuits STEAM activities for Kindergarten through grade 5.

2021 "Reading Colors Your World" Summer Reading Club Begins

Program and Outreach staff members have been preparing for the 2021 Summer Reading Club, which runs June 1-August 31. Children, teens, adults - readers of every age - are invited to sign up online in the Beanstack platform, track time reading and listening to stories, earn badges by completing activity and reading prompts, and earn incentives and prize drawing tickets for chances to win great prizes at the end of summer. Activities tied to the Summer Reading Club will include a scavenger hunt, art contest for teens and adults, kids' online art show, all ages Take and Make arts and crafts, online performances, and more.

General Library News

Strategic Planning Updates

We've had a number of timing setbacks. The most recent timing setback is that the Equity Lens workshop dates have not been working to get the group and the consultant together. We were hoping to have the workshop the same week as the June LAB meeting, but now we're going to hit pause, take a breath, and come back to the scheduling of the workshop with times that will work for as many people as possible. The LAB Chair, Vice-Chair and City Librarian will begin meeting on a regular basis to provide clarity and updates on the process. The first meeting was Friday June 4th and focused on the Strategic Plan process and how it fits in with other City planning/outreach efforts.

Vice-Chair Katherine Daniels requested that this be added as an attachment to the City Librarian's Report as it is an agenda item for the June meeting.

LAB input into Library Strategic Plan

This item is an opportunity for LAB members to begin to discuss topics of interest that we might like to see the library's new Strategic Plan address. Following is a partial list of topics involving the library that have been raised in the previous Strategic Plan or in various LAB meetings in the past:

- Branch libraries or co-location
- Monday hours
- Collection development policy
- Fines
- Budget enhancement
- Other topics or Wild Ideas??

While the plan consultants, library management and others may propose that most of these topics be addressed in the Strategic Plan, we don't yet know that, and so this is an initial opportunity for LAB's input. Please come prepared to offer your thoughts on the above potential topics and any others you think should be addressed. If there's agreement on the need for some or all of these and other topics to be addressed, this could be an action item to inform the consultants of our wishes. This discussion item is not intended to recommend particular approaches to these topics but just to establish areas of LAB interest. If LAB members would like to research any topic of interest, please let Lois know. Over the next few LAB meetings, we can review any research members have done, continue our discussions and decide whether to make any recommendations for Lois and Katherine to bring to steering committee meetings.