

DEARBORN PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2022
APPROVED

➤ ATTENDEES:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| ➤ Chairperson Marcel Pultorak | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Vice Chairperson Dr. Ryan Lazar | ➤ Excused |
| ➤ Secretary/Treasurer Jihan Jawad | ➤ Excused |
| ➤ Commissioner Barth Bucciarelli | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Ali Dagher | ➤ Excused |
| ➤ Commissioner Eva Gogola | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Michelle Jawad | ➤ Excused |
| ➤ Commissioner Arrwa Mogalli | ➤ Absent |
| ➤ Commissioner Mansour Sharha | ➤ Absent |
| | |
| ➤ Library Director Maryanne Bartles | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Deputy Director Julie Schaefer | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Administrative Librarian Patty Podzikowski | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Department Technician Daniel Smith | ➤ Present |

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting of the Dearborn Public Library Commission began at 4:30pm. A quorum was not present to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2022 meeting.

II BUDGET

A. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) request

We are requesting \$99K through the CDBG program to create individual and/or group study rooms for Esper Branch.

The commission discussed the possibility of recouping Library space from the Chamber of Commerce at Bryant Branch once their 10-year lease expires.

III FOUNDATION UPDATE

A. Restoration of 2nd mural at Bryant Branch Library

The Foundation voted at their January meeting to restore the second mural at Bryant Branch with the funds raised from the 2021 mail campaign. The artist that restored the first mural will be hired.

IV INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Library strategic plan

The staff are working on the strategic plan. Priorities are in place, and goals and action items are being established. The Youth Services division will roll their plans out first, as they have had them in motion for some time. They will write a draft of their plan and share with the Administrative panel.

B. Veterans Resource Center

The Veterans Resource Center is a joint effort between the City Community Relations Department and various Veterans service groups including the Disabled American Veterans. It will operate out of a group study room on the HFCL mezzanine at least twice per week from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Veterans residing in Dearborn and surrounding communities are eligible for assistance. It was set to open in early February, but was delayed.

The administration feels that this is a worthwhile endeavor and paints the Library in a positive light.

C. “Back Fence”

We are unsure of the future of the Back Fence, but are hopeful that we can continue to get our message out to the community at large by other means. Commissioner biographies will still be posted on the Library website or through other marketing outlets.

D. Contracting communities list

A list of The Library Network-affiliated libraries and contracted communities was drafted and shared with the commissioners. Patrons of these libraries can borrow from other TLN libraries and per the Commissioners’ approval in January are now able to borrow from the Dearborn Public Library.

E. Smart locker for HFCL – update

The purchase of the HFCL smart locker has been approved by City Council. We are waiting until the mayor’s veto window expires before issuing the purchase order.

F. Change in loan period – items with requests

The loan period of items with holds has been increased from 7 days to 14 days.

G. Upcoming programs

“Book & Cook” programs have been popular and interest is still growing. The Library has partnered with Gleaners for a recent series of programs focusing on tips and tricks for eating healthy on a budget.

“Communities for Immunity” is holding a community gathering at Esper Branch on February 22. Mayor Abdullah Hammoud will be introducing the speaker, Dr. Mouhanad Hammami. Dr. Hammami will be addressing concerns and answering questions from the community regarding vaccines. Copies of the book “Vaccines Explained” will also be available. There will be crafts for children available before the program.

The Library introduced Brainfuse in January. It is a tutoring product for all ages, and some features include essay critiques and resume assistance for users.

V ACTION ITEMS

A. Request to waive historic fines

Item tabled until a quorum is present.

VI COMMENTS

We will be applying for \$2,000 grants for each building. If awarded, the grant money would be used to enhance ESL classes and programming at Esper, including the purchase of an Owl camera. We would also like to purchase a set of VOX books for Bryant and HFCL.

The meeting ended at 5:04pm.