



**Silver City Public Library Community Advisory Group  
4:00 PM, Wednesday, January 12, 2021 at the Library**

**Present:** Ted Lynn, Ken Dayer, Judy Brown-Lawson, David Krisch, Nancy Stephens, J.J. Wilson, Nick Prince, and Lillian Galloway

**Absent:** None

CC: Friends of the Library Contact, Katherine Feist

**Call to Order:**

At 4:05 pm by David Krisch

**Approval of Agenda:**

Approved by affirmation

**Approval of the Minutes from the August 11, 2021 meeting:**

Approved by affirmation

**Public Input:**

N/A

**Reports:**

Memorial Report

The latest numbers are found on page 4 of the Librarian's report. There is approximately, \$100,000 in the Memorial Account. As of this meeting, the director was still waiting for financial reports from city hall to get exact number.

Friends of the Library Report

See page 5 of the Librarian's report. The FOL had a book sale on September 11<sup>th</sup> and that raised \$1,691.00. They are in the process of re-writing their by-laws. J.J. Wilson also stated that the FOL had a book sale on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Foundation Report

Ted Lynn said there was \$738,250.85 in the Foundation accounts that was there to assist the library in any needs.

Librarian Report

- Due to the pandemic, Library attendance is still down approximately 50% and circulation is down approximately 22%.
- The has been experience staff shortages for the past several months. As a result, programming has been at a minimum. Hoping by January to get additional staffing and increase the number of programs. In restarting programming, the focus will be children and youth programming over that of adult programming.
- In mid-December, the Library went live the online databases or virtual library (Ancestry.com, Comics Plus, Flipster, Hoopla, and Rocket Languages) for the public. Flipster (online periodicals) had more circulations (approximately 70) than the print periodicals (52 circulations).
- Staffing shortages have been acute at times. The Library was down three positions (Public Service Manager, Children and Young Adult Librarian, and a Library Clerk), and we lost another Library Clerk due to an unexpected resignation. There have been weeks where the library risked partial or full

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unexpected closures if any staff called in sick. There is now good news as the Abigail Kipp is the new Children's and Young Adult Librarian, and she started on November 26<sup>th</sup>. In December, the library interviewed for the Public Services Manager position, and one should start in January. The Two Library Clerks position should open over the next few weeks. The Library will also get a full-time and part-time person via the New Mexico Workforce Connection's youth development program.

- For fiscal year 2021-2022 we are receiving \$9,712.87 from State Grants-in-Aid. We will be received about \$10,000 less for the 2020 GO Bond compared to previous GO Bonds. This is because of our drop in population and because less funding was appropriated by the Legislature.
- Nick Prince will be the Town of Silver City's Council representative for the library advisory group.

**Old Business:**

N/A

**New Business:**

**Vision and Assessment**

The library submits three plans to the New Mexico State Library on a three-year cycle, the Community Vision and Assessment, the Collection Development Policy, and the Strategic Plan (submitted in 2021). The Community Vision and Assessment and Collection Development Policy are due to be submitted the end of the current fiscal year. The Library Advisory Group was given a copy of the 2017 Community Vision and Assessment, and a copy of the 2017 Collection Development Plan.

Lillian Galloway described the Vision and Assessment document is a statistical profile of the community. The data is primarily used to develop the strategic plan. The data includes population and demographics, economics of our area, social services, information sources/media, and community service groups or organizations. J.J. Wilson commented that there is not much that is advisable in this report by the Library Advisory Group. Ken Dayer replied that is true, but they will get to see statistical profile of the community that will give them more information on future advising. David Krisch noted that statistics can be viewed differently by different people, and that advisory group members may be able to help in the interpretation of the numbers.

**Collection Development Policy**

The advisory group was given a copy of the current collection development policy. Ken Dayer described the basics of the policy and how that parts of the policy will not need advising by the advisory group such as the description of the current collection. There are parts for input such as the focus of the policy in terms of book selection. Ken asked that the members communicate with the community to get their input. At the next meeting, statistical data will be given for the checkouts of the different genres in the collection. Judy Lawson-Brown pointed that seniors do like large print materials, but was surprised to see from the 2017 Community Vision and Assessment documents that seniors did not form a majority of the population for the local community and the majority was people aged 20-64. Ken also pointed out that the Library Advisory Group plays a role in the review process if a person or organization wants to



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request an item to be removed from the collection. Currently, there is a national trend in which individuals and groups are requesting items to be removed from school and public libraries. The current policy states that the Library Director will decide the outcome when a community member submits a "Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials." The person can appeal this decision to the Library Advisory Group. A revision of the Collection Development Policy will likely include sections allowing input from library staff and allowing appeal to the Town Council for contested library materials.

**Addendum:**

Nick Prince introduced himself to the Library Advisory Group.

The next meeting will be February 9, 2022 at 4:00pm.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47pm.