

CITY OF MANSFIELD

*104 South Wisteria
Mansfield, TX 76063
<http://www.mansfield-tx.gov>*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

6:00 PM

Community Room

Mansfield Public Library Advisory Board

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Evans called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

Members present: Suzonne Evans, Jason Miller, Sherri Chambers, Janice Knight and Judy Lee

Members absent: Kelly Campbell, Cindy Gray, ex officio Paula Highfill

Library staff present: City Librarian Steve Standefer and Recorder Geneva Combest.

Community Services Director Shelly Lanners was also in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2009 meeting as written by Judy Lee, second by Sherri Chambers. Passed 5 - 0.

3. CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Friends of the Library. In the absence of President Highfill, Mr. Standefer gave a brief report for the Friends. He announced that the Friends received the Best Friends Award from ALA's Association of Library Trustees, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF). Mr. Standefer will ask the City Council for a date to recognize this award.

Mr. Standefer also commented on the continuing success of the Friends' book sale, and encouraged donations to it.

Excellence in Libraries Award – Texas Municipal League (TML). The Library, once again, received the Excellence in Libraries award from TML for work done in 2008. It is the 4th year the Library has received this award. On the night of the Friends recognition at City Council, Mr. Standefer plans to have the Library recognized as well.

Passage of state funding increases – Loan Star Libraries and Library Systems grant. Legislature adjourned in May, having approved a significant increase in Lone Star grant funding for public libraries and an increase in funding for the regional library systems. The Library is a member of the North Texas Regional Library System.

Increased funding for the TexShare and K-12 electronic data bases was not approved.

Back issues of the Mansfield News Mirror. The Library now has back issues of the Mansfield News Mirror dating from 1960 available on microfilm, accessible with a reader-printer purchased with Loan Star grant funds. Mr. Standefer commented that the Historical Society also has a number of back issues dating into the 1920's. One of his hopes is that those issues, too, could be made available through the Library.

Summer activity – library use and summer reading programs. Library use has averaged around 1000 visitors a day since June 1st, with close to 2000 items a day checked out. The Library is seeing a total increase in use of about 5% over last summer, with a 10% reduction in open hours as of last February. In addition, public use of Library rooms is up about 15 ½ % over last year at this time. Mr. Standefer attributes these numbers to it being summer and the economy being what it is. The

Library is basically at capacity in terms of space and collections.

So far in July 1700 readers have enrolled in the summer reading club and over 2000 children have attended the storytimes. The Library hosts five programs for toddlers and up per week.

Downloadable audiobooks. The Library has suspended its downloadable audiobooks program due to the current inability to accommodate iPod mp3 devices, the most prevalent among patrons. However, improvements are being made that should increase availability to a variety of digital devices. Mr. Standefer hopes to see service restored by the end of July.

Budget. Mr. Standefer reported that a budget for FY 2010 had been submitted and is 6% lower than FY 2009's adopted budget. There is no provision for salary increases for staff and current openings will remain that way. Mr. Standefer did comment that there will probably be another support position open in the fall due to a staff member's moving away.

Mr. Standefer also remarked on the importance to the Library's budget of the increase in state funding of the Loan Star grant and creation of a so-called wish list for the Friends group. Such a list is given to the Friends each year to assist in their donation of funds to the Library.

Time and date of next meeting. The next meeting will be August 12, 2009, at 6 p.m., in the Community Room.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Interview and selection process of candidates for appointment to the Library Board – Discussion: Mr. Standefer reminded the members whose term expires on September 30, 2009 that they need to fill out a new application and return it to him or to the City Secretary. Those members are Jason Miller, Sherri Chambers, Suzonne Evans and Cindy Gray. The deadline for applications is July 31, 2009, by the end of the day.

The selection and recommendation process will continue as in the past, with interview of applicants in an open Board meeting. Recommendations for appointment will then be passed on to City Council through the usual channels.

5. BOARD COMMENTS

Janice Knight commented on an article by Gloria Meraz on 21st century libraries in the current Texas Library Journal and a short discussion followed. During this period the building's electrical service failed and there were no further comments

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ms. Evans called for motion to adjourn at 7:05 p.m

CERTIFICATION

All meetings of the Mansfield Public Library Advisory Board and its committees are open to the public.

I certify that this agenda was posted at the main entrance and on the web site of the Mansfield Public Library by 5:00 p.m., {INSERT DATE} , in accordance with City policy.

Steven R. Standefer, MLS
City Librarian