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Cochise County Library District

"Public programs...personal service"

Minutes of the **April 17, 2019** meeting of
The Cochise County Library District Citizen Liaison Council

The meeting came to order at 1:03 pm at Schieffelin Hall in Tombstone.

Members and guests present: Marian Buchanan (Benson Public Library); Cinda Combs (Bisbee's Copper Queen Library); Michelle Cooley (Willcox's Elsie S. Hogan Community Library); Suzanne Harvey (Huachuca City Library); Diane Hildebrandt (Huachuca City Library); Kelli Jeter (Benson Public Library); Marge Legler (Tombstone City Library); Jeannine Lockwood (Citizen Liaison Council Chair, Sierra Vista Public Library); Jayne McClure (Tombstone City Library); Amadee Ricketts (Cochise County Library District); Alvin Slarve (Sierra Vista Public Library)

Absent: Douglas Public Library

Lockwood asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on October 17, 2018. Slarve made the motion and McClure seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Member reports:

Tombstone City Library: Jayne McClure and Marge Legler shared updates from Tombstone.

The Friends of the Library won a trophy for their float in the Rose Festival Parade, which featured a colorful bookworm. Members of the Friends also handed out bookmarks advertising the Book Nook.

The Book Nook (Friends of the Library bookstore) is open on Saturdays from noon – 3 pm, except during the summer. During the summer months, the space hosts the library's summer reading programs for kids.

The Book Nook has had a lot of success requesting donations (rather than set prices) for books.

Benson Public Library: Kelli Jeter and Marian Buchanan provided an update from Benson.

The Adult Lecture Series had another successful season, September to March, with good turnout and lots of positive feedback.

Sam Bickford, a presenter from Deming, did a presentation about needlepoint art at the library. He brought enough supplies for attendees to try needlepoint for themselves, and he was very nice. Kelli can provide more information if any other libraries are considering hosting the program.

A new genealogy class has started at the library and meets on Thursdays. The program has generated lots of interest.

The writers' club and coloring club continue meeting regularly, and storytimes and preschool visits are going well.

Annual visits from first graders will take place this month, with four total groups visiting the police department, fire department, and library (and enjoying a pizza lunch).

The Friends of the Library are establishing four new Little Libraries, with boxes built by high school shop students. The Friends also maintain the Library District's Free Book Box in St. David.

Kelli is finalizing summer reading plans and next year's budget.

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.

Activity at SVPL continues to grow, with a wide range of programs and services. In January the library saw more than 10,000 visits, and registered 443 new patrons. During the same month, bicycles checked out 23 times!

There are lots of interesting programs scheduled for April, including a Youth Chess Tournament, Fictions Writers' Club, Kids' Karaoke, and more. For a full schedule, visit the online calendar [here](#).

The library offers several educational activity kits for checkout, including kits for astronomy, birdwatching, and geocaching.

The Sierra Vista Library Commissioners participated in the town's Halloween event in October and gave away more than 700 free children's books along with sweet treats. The members are also set to participate in the West End Fair on May 4, where they will share library information and other materials.

Willcox's Elsie S. Hogan Library: Michelle Cooley shared an update from Willcox.

The annual customer satisfaction survey got lots of positive responses again this year.

Programming is going well, with strong attendance in all categories and a new senior outreach exercise program being offered at the Senior Center. The library will also offer a new sewing program for teens and tweens, starting in June. The summer reading program will run from June 6 through July 25.

The library hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Tea on April 9, with homemade treats and tea provided by Friends of the Library member Anita Sedaris. It was a wonderful event to celebrate National Library Week and Library Workers' Day.

Tom Miner will be retiring at the end of June after 26 years with the library. Michelle will be picking up some of his responsibilities, but she will also be out for a medical procedure in April and attending the State Library Leadership Institute (May) and the Library Institute (June). It will be a hectic season at the library!

Bisbee's Copper Queen Library: Cinda Combs shared news and highlights from Bisbee.

Amadee Ricketts (from the Library District) chimed in to celebrate the Copper Queen's selection for the 2019 EBSCO Excellence in Rural Library Service Award, presented by the Public Library Association. The award was announced in March, and with support from the Friends of the Library, Library Manager Jason Macoviak will be attending the American Library Association annual conference in Washington DC in June to accept the award in person.

Cinda wished to commend the Copper Queen Library staff and volunteers in three categories: communication, working with partners, and innovation.

In the communication category, Cinda noted the library's eye-catching flyers and promotional materials, and shared some excellent examples. She also mentioned the library's newsletter, and participation in the Return of the Turkey Vultures celebrations.

High visibility and good communication have contributed to the big increase in circulation at the Copper Queen (+70%!) over the last two years.

Under partnerships, Cinda mentioned the library's longstanding collaboration with the local radio station and the Bisbee Royale, which hosts first-run movie showings and other special events. The library is also working closely with the new Bisbee Science Lab, which will be a key partner in this year's summer reading program.

Under innovation, Cinda highlighted the creative arrangement of space that created the Living Room area and art gallery, and the more recent project that has reorganized the work area on the top floor and created a new reading room. The seed library and wi-fi hotspot checkouts are additional examples, along with the range of lively and nontraditional poetry activities every April.

Finally, Cinda mentioned the new San Jose Annex service location, which is off to a strong start since opening in December. This project ties in all the library's strengths to serve an underserved Bisbee community.

There was some discussion about Amazon Smile, which can be used to raise funds for nonprofit agencies when members or supporters make purchases on Amazon.

Customers who visit <https://smile.amazon.com> can choose a nonprofit to support. When they make a purchase via smile.amazon.com, .5% of the purchase price of eligible products will be donated to their selected nonprofit by the Amazon Smile Foundation.

Organizations that wish to register for Amazon Smile can find program details at <https://org.amazon.com/>. To be eligible, organizations must be publicly recognized nonprofits listed by GuideStar (<https://www.guidestar.org/>).

General information about Amazon Smile is available at <https://smile.amazon.com>.

Huachuca City Library: Suzanne Harvey and Diane Hildebrandt shared news from Huachuca City.

Suzanne noted that none of the library's successes would be possible without the staff, who go above and beyond every day, and the Friends of the Library, who support library programming and services.

The Spotlight on Speakers program (inspired by the Adult Lecture Series at Benson Public Library, and organized by staff member Janet Weir) has been a hit. One popular event featured a fashion show by the Tombstone Vigilettes, which was presented at the Town Hall.

The library is excited to have extremely fast broadband internet coming soon, with support from the federal E-rate program. The library is also helping to close the digital divide by checking out (grant-funded) wi-fi hotspots and offering digital literacy training classes and one-on-one help sessions.

The digital literacy training has been presented by (and the grant that support the program was written with assistance from) Karen Fasimpaur of K12 Handhelds in Portal (karen@k12handhelds.com). Karen has also done grant/project coordination work for the Library District, and she is great.

Suzanne and the library have taken the lead in putting out a new Town of Huachuca City newsletter, which includes library news along with other town departments. The Friends have donated the printing costs, and the newsletter goes out with water bills... so it is reaching a wide audience!

The library is an active member of the Healthy Huachuca City Committee, which is working on a range of health-related projects including transportation, a community food pantry, and hopefully the restoration of lunch service at the Senior Center in the future. In the meantime, the library is looking for ways to offer healthy activities at the Senior Center.

The library is right next to a park, so they will soon check out basketballs, tennis balls and racquets, and related equipment to use there. The library is also working to introduce Fitness in A box kits for checkout. Themes will include mindfulness, yoga, healthy eating... maybe even dancing! Materials will be donated, with additional items supported by the Friends and perhaps other partners (like the Lions Club).

The library's regular programs have been going well, including Coding Club, electronics classes, STEAM events for kids, and storytimes. Marta, a worker from Project Ayuda, teaches the electronics class and recently taught a program for kids about building wooden automata.

Program attendance has been so strong that the Friends purchased additional chairs for the library.

The Friends also support the summer reading program and maintain the very busy Library District Free Book Box in Whetstone. The Friends recently applied for a grant to add rainwater harvesting. In the future, the Friends and the library hope to add a butterfly and pollinator garden.

The Friends sponsor the annual Polar Express event, held in December. In 2018 the mayor read the story (he was excellent!), and the ebook was shown on a big screen so kids could see the pictures. The Friends provided hot cocoa, and a model train set to liven up the room, and a flashing railroad crossing sign at the front door. More than 100 people attended.

The Conex the Friends use for book sales has been moved to a new location by the library (and has electricity!). They hope to add a colorful paint job soon.

Director's Report:

Amadee Ricketts offered some statistics and highlights from the 2018 calendar year. See attached handout for details.

One County, One Card progress report:

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

After two years of steady progress, the One Card project will go live this spring. See attached handout or visit <http://tinyurl.com/OneCardCochise> for project details.

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

For the good of the order:

The libraries in Tombstone and Huachuca City have been offering free reading glasses for patrons (to keep) as part of the Lions Club ALERT (Arizona Lions Eyeglass Recycle Terminal) program.

Nonprescription reading glasses are collected, checked, cleaned, and made available for the public. Any libraries interested in participating are invited to contact Marge Legler, 702-290-5290, for more information.

Jeannine Lockwood highlighted a group called SAWs (Servants at Work), which can build handicapped access ramps for residences.

Jeannine has been volunteering with SAWs, and they would love to build some ramps in Cochise County. To be eligible, residents must have income below 200% of the federal poverty line. Contact Jeannine, 520-686-4547, for more information.

Alvin Slarve, from Sierra Vista, suggested inviting Cochise College Libraries and the library from Fort Huachuca to future meetings, so the group can learn about their services and explore possibilities for resource sharing. All agreed that it is a very good idea.

The next official meeting date will be the third Wednesday in October (2019), which is October 16. The Huachuca City Library will be the meeting location if it is available, with the Library District conference room in Bisbee as a backup.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

After the meeting, several attendees took a brief tour of the Schieffelin Hall theater, visited the rose tree, and stopped by the Book Nook and the library. Thanks to Jayne McClure and Marge Legler for being wonderful hosts!

Respectfully submitted,

Amadee Ricketts