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Cochise County Library District

"Public programs...personal service"

Minutes of the **December 13, 2017** meeting of
The Cochise County Library District Citizen Liaison Council

The virtual meeting, held via the Zoom meeting platform, was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Amadee Ricketts.

Members and guests present: Suzanne Harvey (Huachuca City); Kelli Jeter (Benson); Jeannine Lockwood (Benson); Amadee Ricketts (District); Marcia Spitler (Tombstone); Margaret White (Douglas)

Absent: Copper Queen Library, Sierra Vista Library, and Willcox Library

Ricketts asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on October 18, 2017. White made the motion and Jeter seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

District Director's report: Amadee Ricketts reported that the new library catalog rollout and related circulation changes have gone fairly smoothly, thanks to excellent help from all of the member libraries and CCLD branches. There were a few bumps early on as patrons adjusted to the new catalog and libraries worked out the mechanics of circulating new materials between libraries. One month into the change, those difficulties seem to be resolved.

New CLC Chair: Ricketts called for nominations for a new chair for the Cochise County Library District Citizen Liaison Council. Jeter moved to nominate Jeannine Lockwood, of Benson. White seconded the motion. The motion was passed with five affirmative votes. Lockwood abstained.

Lockwood is an active member of the Friends of the Benson Library and Benson's Library Advisory Board. Her term as chair begins immediately.

Zoom meeting platform: The group discussed their impressions of the online meeting platform. Of those present, two connected using computers with cameras and microphones, three connected using computers without those accessories, using phones to access the audio, and one participated by telephone, with no visual component.

One member had slight difficulties with audio quality, which seemed to be bandwidth related. Another had difficulty connecting at first, due to unclear instructions, but found it simple after that. All present agreed that it seems like a useful tool for future meetings.

Cinda Combs (Copper Queen Library) and Mary Buchanan (Tombstone Library) both tried to attend but had difficulty connecting. The snags have been identified in both cases, and they feel comfortable trying again next time.

Willcox Library was not represented due to a scheduling conflict. The same was true for Sierra Vista Public Library.

Member updates: Library reports were not on the agenda, but the official business was resolved so quickly that informal updates were shared.

Tombstone City Library: Marcia Spitler reported that the preschool activity program, started in the fall, has continued to grow. There are now six children in regular attendance.

The library visit by J.A. Jance, offered as part of Helldorado Days, was very successful. Attendance was high, but plenty of Friends of the Library turned out to help. Ms. Jance indicated that she would like to come back in the future.

Benson Public Library: Kelli Jeter reported that the annual Public Library Statistics report is completed; it was great to get it in early this year.

The library's adult lecture series is underway, and storytime is ongoing. The library plans to introduce a new program for kindergarten students in January.

A group representing the library and the Friends of the Benson Library will be visiting Quiburi Mission on January 16 to dedicate a new bookshelf full of books for the residents. They are working on a similar program for another assisted living facility in the Benson area.

Huachuca City Public Library: Suzanne Harvey reported that the annual Polar Express event was better than ever this year, with about 70 people in attendance. The FOL provided small gifts for kids, and the read-aloud was enhanced by showing the ebook on a big screen, so everyone could enjoy the illustrations. U of A Cooperative Extension participated in the event, preparing healthy Rudolph smoothies.

The new STEM 4-H Club has been meeting every other week, with about seven regular members. The library has also started two LEGO Robotics groups – one for younger students and one for older kids. They meet on Thursdays, and despite some challenges getting parts, the kids have been having a great time.

Harvey credits a lot of the library's recent success to their excellent Friends of the Library, volunteers, and dedicated staff.

Douglas Public Library: Margaret White reported that DPL is a pilot site for a new AZ State Library mini-grant program that will provide wifi hotspots for checkout. These are especially appropriate for rural areas with spotty internet coverage, because they operate using cellular networks. Potential challenges include lost or damaged hotspots, and sustaining the program after the grant period. White plans to seek grant approval from the Douglas City Council this week, and will share information about the program with other Cochise County libraries as it moves ahead.

Douglas Public Library is a hub of holiday activity this month, with a successful Food for Fines program, a gift drive for residents of local assisted living facilities, and a citywide Toys for Tots drive which includes multiple departments. At least 130 area families are expected to receive gifts, and library staff have enjoyed helping with the various holiday projects.

For the good of the order: Lockwood asked that libraries that were not represented be surveyed to see whether they ran into technical difficulties, or were not able to attend for unrelated reasons. Ricketts agreed to follow up and share the information with the group.

The next meeting will be held on April 18, 2018, from 1-3 pm. Douglas is the tentative location.

Lockwood moved to adjourn, White seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amadee Ricketts