

**MIAMI PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING**  
**Minutes of Monday, April 10, 2023**

**Meeting called to order at 12:13 pm by Sloane Arana.**

**Members present:** Kit Waters Ulrey, Aaron Matthews, Meghan Dorey, and Sloane Arana

**Library Staff Present:** Caitlyn Baker, Assistant Director and Callie Cortner, Director of Library, Arts, and Culture.

**Minutes:** Discussed that the more details in minutes is better. Meghan Dorey moved to approve the meeting minutes, Aaron Matthews seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

**Circulation Report and Cash Receipts Feb & Mar '23:**

Circulation is up. There were 52 new library cards and will include database statistics. HelpNow is a homework help and had a huge bump from 2 to 45 and 30 the last couple of months because of advertising it on Facebook. HelpNow automatically assumes the person has a library card and can receive help through live chat. A user can use ZOOM without paying and there are different study guides from elementary grades to college. VetNow helps veterans restructure to civilian life. JobNow has mock interviews and helps with resumes. Preservica is genealogy.

Rather than paying for database statistics, Callie had found a way to use Google Analytics for free. Excel HS also does not have exact tracking.

Cash receipts for Feb was \$522.25 and \$738.64 for March. Donations for February was ~~\$522.25~~ and \$217 for March.

*#300 formula issue  
KWW*

March 2022 our circulation was 2,477 and March 2023 was 5,569-more than doubled! Patron computer sessions is down, but wireless is up. We had reduced the patron computer desks from 10 to 6. Our early literacy stations have been around since 2003. The newer ones have more things on them than previous ones. A trade-in offer for the older early literacy stations is available, but rather than send back to the company it can be donated to schools or daycares. Don't know the cost of a new early literacy station and will need to fundraise.

Meghan Dorey asked a question about the computers in the children's section if they had HelpNow available on them, and they do not. But the library can put Quicklinks on a regular PC or laptops for elementary.

**Director's Report:**

Conference Trip: Crucial Candor was about tough conversations and learning to speak about things that are difficult; Change of Leadership breakout was about getting people to buy into new changes, which has been timely as our library leadership is still fairly new; met with vendors; spoke to someone on ADA compliance regarding the elevator tips, feedbacks, and ideas. The vendor said that he could talk to City Council.

Budget Phase 1-Presented to City Manager: Did present the budget to City Council. Our elevator is not on the budget. The library and the Civic Center elevator are the same age, so whichever one breaks first is the one that gets fixed. There are no more parts for the elevator controls.

Council Presentation: Callie and Caitlyn gave a presentation to the council and talked about numbers from July to January. They led with the library saved \$254, 941 dollars for the community through the services they provide. One thing that most people don't know is that the library can proctor exams and has done 20 of those. 20,628 people have walked through the doors. 36,679 items have been checked out. 45,889 logins and 195 programs provided. Not to mention the movie nights and Imagination Library. Mayor Bless Parker complimented that the library staff always gets things done. One of the things brought up was how someone in our community had been a victim of scams and the library was asked if they could do something on that and they said, we are working on Financial Literacy grant and have been talking to bank officers at Morning Brew who would like to come in and lead trainings on things like budgeting, advanced budgeting, FAFSA, etc.

Kit Waters asked if we could bring partner with schools to promote FAFSA training? There are parents who don't complete FAFSA forms for their children and that hurts them. Aaron Matthews asked if we could put recorded trainings out there to be watched. The live questions and answers would not be included in the recorded trainings. But yes, Callie said, we can look into doing that. Our financial literacy page has links.

We have approximately 477 kids signed up for Imagination Library. Reminded the council that we have a Time Capsule in Riverview Park to be opened in 2076.

A hashtag that we are promoting is #NotYourGrandmasLibrary because we offer so much more than books.

It would be nice to have board members present when we present to the City Council again.

#### **Assistant Library Director's Report:**

Health and Literacy: Upcoming programs are NETHC food demonstrations and Learning Ropes Instructor training and train them in doing double dutch and performances. We are looking for people who would be great instructors. It was mentioned to check out youth groups, teachers, and Josh Brinkley or Megan Frazier from Five Alarm. The Boys and Girls Club will be doing a club at the end of the class.

Kit Waters do you think we could tie a fundraiser into this? Sponsor for jumps? We need about \$8,500 to concrete where there were bushes and Jessica will put a doggy mural there.

Imagination Library: The tribal director had no idea all the things that the library offered. They asked if the library would send out mail to the daycares. Does the Board know places where they could do presentations?

Excel High School: The library was able to purchase 10 seats. Caitlyn mentioned some of the funding covers payroll so when the money comes in July, half of it will last year's payroll and this year's. We have 2 on the waiting list and will be able to do a preassessment and then interview. It is important to see if they are serious about it, because the cost is \$1,100 for a seat, we will have them do a pledge.

**New Business:**

Meghan Dorey asked about the Summer Reading program. Sonja has it all planned. This year it will be for all ages and the theme is "All Together Now" and will start on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Callie did mention that we will be having a good-bye to McGregor's Garden on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. We will have photos taken with live bunnies and afterward show Peter Rabbit. The new mural will be "Unity in the Community."

**Friends of Library Report:**

Becky Baird is not here, so we skipped the report.

**Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm. Next meeting scheduled Monday, May 8, 2023 12:05 the library.**

Minutes by: Kit Waters

Absent

Ray VandeGiessen

Kristina Ulrey

Kristina Ulrey

A. Mathews

Aaron Mathews

Becky Baird

Becky Baird

Absent

Meghan Dorey

Sloane Arana

Sloane Arana