

**Library Board
Library Meeting Room
3815 Sachse Road, Building C**

**Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 13, 2012**

Present

Board Members: Robert Rodgers, Amos Pettis, Patrece King, Dia Rhoden, Michael Ewing, Dixie Scogin, & Judith Lensch

Library Manager: Mignon Morse

Friends of the Library: Kathy Cobb

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas Flags

Amos Pettis gave the invocation. No pledges were done as no flags were present.

2. Call to Order.

Robert Rodgers called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

3. Approval of Minutes

11-0613 Consider approval of Minutes of the December 12, 2011 Regular Meeting

The minutes from the December 12, 2011 regular meeting were reviewed. Dia Rhoden made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected (a spelling correction), and Judith Lensch seconded. The December minutes were unanimously approved as corrected.

4. Discuss Friends of the Sachse Library update.

Kathy Cobb provided an update of the Friends' activities. There was a recent meet-and-greet for Library Manager Mignon Morse. The Friends are updating their bylaws. The Friends recently voted money for baby changing stations in the Library restrooms, which were recently installed. They are considering a May book sale and are preparing for an April book fair. There was also a discussion of new technologies.

5. 12-0690 Welcome presentation of background information and potential goals of Library Manager

Library Manager Mignon Morse gave a presentation on her background, experience, and professional involvements along with an overview of some of her goals and vision for the Sachse Library.

6. Regular Agenda Items:

6a. 12-0691 Discuss and consider approval of the revised circulation policy.

Ms. Morse distributed a proposed revised circulation policy to bring the Sachse Library into conformity with area libraries. Additionally, the Sachse Library has over \$17,000 in unpaid library fines from patrons. There were three main areas of proposed revision: 1) increasing the minimum age from 16 to 17 years, 2) increasing the daily fines from \$0.05 to \$0.10 per item per day, and 3) increasing the maximum fine from \$1 to \$5 per item.

Dia Rhoden asked about fines during the Library closure last winter, and the amnesty period was discussed.

Ms. Morse discussed prioritizing getting Library books back while maintaining a friendly relationship with the community and Library patrons.

Amos Pettis discussed a desire to make the circulation policy consistent with the E-book Reader policy, which is a separate policy. Both policies were reviewed for consistency.

There was extended discussion about the best age at which to allow patrons to obtain their own Library card without parent/guardian approval. Ms. Morse said the proposed age increase was strictly to be in compliance with other libraries but there was not any library purpose for any specific age. She did express a concern that it might be easier to enforce the policy re fines and returning books with parental approval. Mr. Pettis expressed a concern about potentially denying 16 or 17 year olds (who have the ability to drive on their own) the ability to get books needed for school or in developing a love of reading if they do not have a supportive or available parent or guardian. There was also discussion about the significance of the terminology of “adult” versus “minor” and appropriate usage and definitions. The Board eventually agreed to leave the age at 16, subject to any legal concerns of the City Attorney which could be raised separately to the City Council.

There was discussion about the maximum number of items first-time borrowers could check out and the number of DVD’s which could be checked out. For consistency, Ms. Morse recommended raising the number of items to 5. The Board agreed.

Ms. Morse recommended raising the daily fines for overdue items from \$0.05 to \$0.10 per item per day and increasing the maximum fine from \$1 to \$5 per item. This recommendation was based on a survey of surrounding communities. Sachse’s current amounts were at the very low end of the range, and the proposed increases would bring us closer to the average. Additionally, Ms. Morse recommended not allowing patrons to check out materials until fines over \$5 are paid. The Board agreed.

There was also discussion of revising some wording issues for consistency and accuracy.

Amos Pettis made a motion to adopt the revised *Sachse Public Library Circulation Policy* with the revisions discussed. Patrece King seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously,

and the revised *Sachse Public Library Circulation Policy* was adopted for presentation to the City Council for its consideration.

6b. 12-0692 Discuss distribution of a community survey.

Ms. Morse has prepared an online community survey for distribution to the Sachse community for feedback on some Library issues. She will try to get business and community groups to post a link to the survey so that it reaches as many members of the community as possible. One of the issues is changing the Library hours a couple of days per week to allow flexibility to make the Library available in a convenient manner to all members of the community who wish to use the Library.

Dixie Scogin asked about Library staffing. The Library has 3 full-time employees (in addition to the Library Manager), one part-time employee, and a lot of volunteers. The volunteers make it happen at the Sachse Library.

6c. 12-0693 Discuss online advocacy training and advocacy planning.

Ms. Morse discussed an online advocacy training course available at no cost from the Public Library Association. Ms. Morse would like to have the Board members and other interested community members take the course and learn more about advocacy on behalf of the Library.

7. 12-0694 Manager's Report including announcements, statistics, upcoming projects for the Board, events, and community outreach.

Ms. Morse provided an overview of prior and upcoming Library events and programs including some of the Library Manager's community activities since her appointment. Ms. Morse has applied for some grant money for the Library. There are numerous events planned for March as well as the upcoming spring and summer.

8. Library Board announcements regarding special events, current activities, and local achievements

Patrece King thanked Judith Lensch for volunteering to serve as a judge for the upcoming High School talent show.

Dia Rhoden announced that she officially joined the Friends of the Library.

Amos Pettis welcomed Mignon Morse as the new Library Manager and expressed his optimism and excitement her tenure in charge of the Sachse Library.

9. Adjournment

Dixie Scogin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Patrece King. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

LIBRARY BOARD SECRETARY

LIBRARY BOARD CHAIR