

The Alexandria Library Board was called to order by Chairperson Kathleen Schloeder on Monday, October 19, 2015 at 4:07 pm in the Ilka K. Dickman Board Room at Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library. Members present were K. Schloeder, O. Fitzgerald, G. Day-Fuller, A. Paul, H. Desfosses, and W. Brierre. Member absent was A. Silberberg.

The members of the staff present were Director Dawson, Deputy Director DiPilato, Division Chief of Administrative Services Wesson, Human Resources Manager Ross Farley, and Librarian I Megan Zimmerman.

Megan Zimmerman, from the Barrett Library, made a presentation on the Library's 3D printing machines. Director Dawson noted that the Library intended the first floor of the Burke Branch Library to become a makerspace. The Library was developing capacity among the staff to build, repair, and train others in the making and use of 3D printers.

The Year-To-Date statistics are as follows:

DIVISION	CIRCULATION	CIRCULATION PERCENTAGE INC/DEC	PATRON COUNT	PATRON COUNT PERCENTAGE INC/DEC
BARRETT*	49,539	3.53%	26,584	-16.94%
BEATLEY	199,806	14.01%	81,188	3.17%
BURKE	30,299	-14.59%	21,815	-12.58%
DUNCAN	85,800	-4.41%	39,483	-18.12%
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/ LOCAL HISTORY*	5,461	65.64%	4,620	13.82%
TALKING BOOKS**	1,084	-52.97%	405	-29.57%
EMATERIALS	41,244	95.31%		
TOTAL	413,233	10.18%	174,095	-7.65%

REGISTERED BORROWERS***	94,098	-31.37%
EBORROWERS	21,204	16.24%
LIBRARY MATERIALS	448,601	21.03%
LIBRARY WEBSITE VISITS	153,421	57.75%
LIBRARY WEBSITE PAGES USED	1,559,880	69.71%
WIRELESS USERS	16,744	59.47%
PASSPORTS (# PROCESSED)	657	
PROCTORING (# OF EXAMS)	4	

**Barrett was closed for renovations from August 17-22, 2015. Local History's patron count is inflated due to Contractors entering and exiting.*

***Complete statistics are not available at this time.*

****Reduction due to annual purge of patron database.*

MONTHLY INTERNET COMPUTER UTILIZATION:

	No. of Terminals- Automated Signup	No. of Sessions	Utilization
Barrett	8	949	53.31%
Beatley	30	4,697	50.30%
Burke	16	1,533	48.00%
Duncan	9	1,047	42.02%
TOTAL	63	8,226	54.81%

Ms. Desfosses moved to approve the September 2015 minutes as amended. Mr. Brierre seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Director Dawson presented George Washington’s A Medical Dictionary, which had just been restored by Cat Tail Run. Ms. Schloeder thanked the Library Company for funding the restoration.

Director Dawson presented the Monthly Activity Report noting that the patron count continues to go down while circulation continues to increase; Dawson referred to this as the “new norm.” Construction at the Barrett Branch contributed to that branch’s patron count showing a year to date decrease. The Director reported that the new passport service was doing well. Wifi continued to increase while Internet usage decreased.

Director Dawson reported that Diana Price, coordinator for Youth Services, won a \$7,500 Curiosity Creates Grant offered by the Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC). Alexandria was the only Virginia library to receive the grant. The grant will allow staff to purchase robotic kits and maker kits with the funds and will contribute to Alexandria’s focus on STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) efforts. Ms. Schloeder asked that on behalf of the library board the Director congratulate Diana Price for her success on winning the grant.

Director Dawson reported that the City Council budget retreat had been rescheduled to a date after the City Council elections. This would allow any newly elected council members to participate.

The Director reported that the Fall Festival at Beatley Central Library was a huge success. She reported that construction at the Barrett Branch was almost complete. The Burke Branch had focused on Diversity Month in October. The Diversity Committee had a staff display traveling to each of the branches, highlighting the diversity of the library staff. The Duncan Branch would host the Daniel Bennett Jazz Group from New York.

Director Dawson reported that Deputy Director DiPilato had sent a letter to the Oakville Triangle Committee; the committee's chair recommended that the Library's suggestions for a library presence at the Oakville Triangle small area development plan be considered.

Director Dawson reported that George Combs, Special Collections Manager, had been invited to attend a watch party for the new Civil War TV drama, Mercy Street. The Library would host related programs in January, when the program debuts. Special Collections staff provided research for the program to PBS.

Director Dawson announced that the Library had hired Theresa Reiss to staff the Law Library, beginning in November. Ms. Reiss has a background in law libraries as well as public libraries. The Director would be meeting with the law librarian from Richmond for ideas and suggestions regarding Alexandria's Law Library.

Director Dawson thanked Ms. Day-Fuller for attending the For Love of Country Essay and Poetry contest. The poet laureate Tori Lane was the keynote at the event. With 21 submissions, this was a very successful first-year event and the Library was looking forward to next year's program.

Ms. Desfosses asked if the Library had plans for grand re-opening or ribbon cutting for the Barrett Branch. Director Dawson agreed that this was a good idea and staff would make plans.

Director Dawson announced that she, Deputy Director DiPilato, Duncan Branch Manager Brack Stovall, and Ms. Schloeder had attended the Beautification Award ceremony. During the ceremony, the Duncan Branch received an award based on the efforts of the Friends of the Duncan Library in improving the landscaping of the branch.

Mrs. Paul reported that the Library was one quarter through the year and had spent 28.2% of the budget. 42% of State Aid had been spent, due to the fact that we paid for a number of databases at the beginning of the fiscal year. She reported that the Library made \$91,101 of the \$272,000 fines and fees requirement.

Ms. Desfosses reported that she and Mr. Brierre had been working on a draft Investment Committee report regarding the Board's investment policy, which would be shared with the Board at its next meeting.

Director Dawson reported that the City had released its 2016 calendar with approved city holidays. The Christmas holiday will be observed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26. She requested that the Library also be closed on Saturday, December 24 and Sunday, December 25. Mrs. Paul moved to approve the December 24 and 25 dates as library closures. Ms. Day-Fuller seconded the motion. Ms. Schloeder stated that she opposed the fact that we are forced to close on Friday December 23rd. The motion passed with five yes votes and one opposition.

The Board discussed attending upcoming budget hearings. They noted that any newly elected council members would take office in January and would possibly start paying attention to items of interest in December. Director Dawson noted that City departments would receive budget guidance in November by the Office of Management and Budget. By January departments would have received City Council guidance. Ms. Schloeder said that she had sent invitations to the Friends' presidents to attend the four scheduled community engagement meetings.

Mrs. Paul moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:23pm. Mr. Brierre seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.