

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

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Sussex County Library Advisory Board (LAB) Meeting MINUTES Wednesday, January 20, 2020

VIA A ZOOM MEETING: REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please send email request to Kathy Graybeal at kgraybeal@sussexcountyde.gov for login.

Attendees: Rachel Lynch, Kathy Graybeal, Mary Brittingham, Diana Young, Theo Loppatto, Catharine Kramer, Sue Keefe, Valerie O'Neal, Stephen Schwartz, Bonnie Elliott, Mary Hopkins, John Monahan, Pam Batten, Jessica Webb, Katie McDonough, Jill DiPaolo, Annie Norman, Gail Bruce, Kay Hudson, Carol Fitzgerald

Call to Order: 9:31a by Diana Young.

Adoption of the Wednesday, January 20, 2021 Agenda. Motion: Diana Young; 2nd: John Monahan.
Approve Wednesday, December 16, 2020 Minutes. Motion: John Monahan; 2nd Steve Schwartz.

Sussex County Libraries

- Update: library service. District 2 candidate was rejected. Councilwoman Green will find a representative. Libraries have volunteered to be vaccination sites – no word yet. Sussex County Winter Reads progressing well. Over 400 have signed on. Sussex Library System members continue to experiment with another unified Summer Reading Program. The Neighborly Notes project will begin in March. Several libraries are offering scheduled/COVID-safe appointments for tax preparation. All depends on what your coordinator is willing to tackle. Independent Library Workgroup settled the social media platform data collection: tally for a live event = attendance and tally for a recorded event = circulation. There is still discussion about creating records for the Grab and Go kits vs. an ephemera count.
- Update: library reopening. With surges, we moved back to curbside (except Seaford + Frankford). With calls every day, Laurel hops to reopen in mid-February. The County library staff are also back to working in pods. Debating question of replacing fabric-covered seating. Karen Johnson, Bridgeville, sold hers to finance purchasing new!
- Delmar donated over 70 hat and scarf sets to Harvest Ministries!
- John reminded all that the DLA Legislative Committee meeting is next Monday, preceding the Leg Day Lite sessions.
- RE: school equity lawsuit. Steve Schwartz explains that the \$75 million settlement is an opportunity to bring libraries into the discussion around low-income, under-performing students, to remind all about western Sussex County. He encourages us

to find and use leverage at this time to “change how the pie is cut” re: the library tax

DDL/Steering/DE Libraries/COL

- Update: library service. DPIL is only creeping along. There are 13,168 registered statewide. First Lady, Tracey Carney, is currently reading the Library’s books online. Hugh Leahy has asked about library staff placement under a 1b status for vaccinations. Annie had already made query of DPH. Awaiting word. – put libs under 1B? Ben has 200 Chromebooks to distribute to the 33 libraries. Several are buying additional to add to stock. These are intended to circulate! No mi-fis however. Ilona Holland shared that the Lewes Library/Cape Henlopen School District tutoring project to help with remote learning has yet to start. Baker + Taylor continue to be a problem. More research. Annie says we don’t owe them a thing. We can change to another jobber if needed/wanted.
- Report: Council on Libraries. It is the 120th anniversary of DE libraries! Big director changes: Jean Kauffman, Brandywine Hundred, and Chris Hayward, Harrington, are retiring. Courtney Stewart and Annie Norman are proposing we start a foundation to advocate for libraries regularly...not just at budget time. Judy Taggart emphasized that the process is complicated with many legal issues. Annie said “It will just take as long as it takes to do it well.” DDL staffer, Nick Martin, is writing BIG grants for telehealth in the libraries. NCC is contributing \$300K to emedia after analysis of use by patrons. Annie is presenting at the Sussex County Health Coalition meeting on 1/26/21. Per Diana Brown and Annie: an increase in State Aid does seem possible. Remember that DLA Legislative Days Lite are Tu, 1/26, Wed, 1/27, Th, 1/28

Next meeting date: February 17, 2021 at 9:30am via the Zoom platform.

Adjourn.

In accordance with 29 Del. C. §10004(e)(2), this Agenda was posted on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 2:00pm and at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

This Agenda is subject to change to include the addition or deletion of items, including Executive Sessions, which arise at the time of the Meeting. Agenda items listed may be considered out of sequence.