

Richardson Public Library Board
City Hall – Multipurpose Room – CH157
Wednesday, September 13, 2023
6:30 PM

MINUTES

Chair Cathy Ziegler called a regular meeting of the Richardson Public Library Board to order at 6:34 pm in City Hall Multipurpose Room #CH 157, 2360 Campbell Creek Blvd., Richardson, TX. A quorum was present.

Members present: **Cathy Ziegler, Richard Lin, Traute Malhotra, Amanda Gallegos, Laurie Patton, Audrey Oatis-Newsome, and Patricia Mulvihill**

Others present: **Jennifer Davidson**, Library Director
 Vrena Patrick, Assistant Director of Library Services
 Dan Barrios, City Council Liaison
 Sadhana Pendharkar, Program Director at AECOM GEC
 Doug Moss, Partner at Steinberg Hart
 Keila Diaz, Secretary
 Stacey Davis, Assistant Notetaker

Visitors: Michaela Dollar, Assistant City Manager

A motion was made to approve the May meeting minutes and the minutes were approved.

Director's Report:

Temporary Location

Library closed September 9th and staff and specialty movers are hard at work preparing for the move. The estimated reopening at the temporary location is mid to late October.

Renovation

Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) was awarded to Balfour Beatty. Tonight's presentation by Steinberg Hart will be presented to City Council on 9/18.

Statistics

Library Director Davidson reported on Library use and collection statistics comparing fiscal years 2020 – 2023. Chairperson Ziegler commented that the statistics showed circulation was down, but library visits were up which reflects how people use the library – for study space, meeting space, and programs. In the few days leading up to the Library closure almost 8,000 items were checked out.

Update on Programs

150th Anniversary

A mini-canvas reception, the reveal of contents from the 1973 time capsule and the display of the contents going into the new time capsule capped off the anniversary events for the Library.

Richardson Reads One Book Program

The Library programs supporting Richardson Reads One Book were very popular and the lecture tickets were “sold” out in three hours.

Adults

The first Adult Summer Reading Club was a success, one of the Library’s full time Librarians attended Texas Library Association Leadership program, and the Library and RROB hosted a booth at UT Dallas’ Thread Collectors author event. Upcoming programs were discussed.

Youth Services

Librarians visited local elementary schools in May to promote the Summer Reading Club, there were 140 well-attended, summer programs, and staff attended several RISD outreach events to highlight services and issue library cards to teachers and families. Storytimes and a Halloween program will start at the new location the week of October 23.

Other Library News

The FOL conducted their last book sale and removed all their remaining items from the building, we received 2024 Public Library Accreditation from the Texas State Library & Archives Commission (TSLAC), and there have been several impacts to Texas libraries in the last year.

Upcoming Dates to Note

- Staff Inservice Day – Friday, September 15
- Light Up Lockwood – Saturday, September 16
- Board Applicant Reception – Tuesday, September 19 at City Hall
- Public Safety Expo – Saturday, September 23 at Huffhines Park
- Wellness and Safety Fair – Wednesday, September 27 at Richardson Senior Center
- RALC Buns & Roses – Sunday, October 22
- CARES – Library Presentation – Thursday, October 26

Renovation Plan

Doug Moss explained the project schedule and highlighted the guiding principles. The feedback from the survey and focus groups showed that patrons’ top priority is safe and comfortable building.

The Library will have a new easily accessible and identifiable entrance, a new drop off lane and a new staircase on the south side with a glass surround. The City Council will make the final decision on a fourth elevator.

Interior design

- Most departments and the office area will be located on a different floor(s) than they currently are, and staff spaces will be consolidated and reduced to accommodate the public use spaces.
- There will be staff help desks on all floors.

- Every floor will have public bathrooms located in the same spot, so they are easily accessed by the public.
- Reservable study rooms will be available: 10 for adults plus the teen study rooms.
- Information about the entire outside space plans will be presented at the September 18th City Council meeting.

City Council Liaison

Dan Barrios introduced himself, giving his background and love for libraries.

Miscellany

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 6:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Keila Diaz

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keila Diaz", with a large flourish extending upwards and to the right.

