

Approved Lacey Library Board Minutes

September 14, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

(Live and Zoom meeting)

Present: (in person) Sharla Desy, Scott Robinson, James Murray, and Holly Paxson, Lacey Timberland Library Branch Manager and via Zoom, Pam Nelson. Amy Blondin was absent. Sara Towne's term has expired and we are waiting for a new member to be appointed.

Sharla Desy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The agenda was approved.

The June 8th meeting minutes were approved as written.

There were no public comments.

Library Manager's Report

Holly reported that they received a new van, so they are increasing mobile service to include the Lacey Food Bank, Tenino, and Rainier. They have submitted a request to Timberland to add an awning to the van.

The Summer program concluded, and they are now transitioning from passive activities such as the scavenger hunt and story trail at the RAC, back to regular programs. There are fewer programs than pre-pandemic, but the quality has improved.

Summer program challenges focused on literacy, and they gave away 1,486 free books and 153 books at the Hawks Prairie location.

The library has seemed busier and the statistics support that. Total library business is back to pre-pandemic levels, however, there has been a 10K increase in digital checkouts. This is attributed to the pandemic and increased use of digital materials.

Scott asked if the library ever uses volunteers as they did pre-pandemic. They are referring people looking for volunteer opportunities to the Friends of Lacey Library.

Library Budget

The budget was submitted and no official response has been received yet. However, the city included an interior paint refresh for the library in their budget. Holly expects a response near the end of the year.

Shelving In the teen area will be emptied and moved to the end of the building. They are moving magazines, adding new shelving carts, new furniture in the teen area, and replacing the old wood bookshelves used by the Friends.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held November 9th at 5:30 in person or remote.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Nelson

Lacey Library Board
Library Manager's Report
Presented on September 14, 2022
For May through August, 2022

Library News:

Lots of news on the staffing front! This summer saw the departure of Library Assistant Scott Sills, and our amazing Adult Services Librarian Jennifer Robertson was promoted to District Manager for Timberland! Within just a few months, though, we were able to welcome Public Services Specialist Diane Froelich (transferring from TRL Mobile Services Anywhere Library) and new Adult Services Librarian Matt Roach (transferring from Olympia). Getting two already-trained and highly qualified staff was a real boon for our library, and we're grateful they wanted to come work here at Lacey.

Summer Library Program at both Lacey and the new Hawks Prairie Library took up the bulk of our summer activities. SLP started June 1st and continued until August 31st. Participants signed up by choosing a free book, getting a Literacy Activity log, events calendar, and book bag. All who completed 10 literacy activities received a finisher's certificate and a 2nd free book, while children age 12 and under also received tickets to Point Defiance Zoo/NW Trek and a Rainiers baseball game. Library visitors also got the opportunity to complete a space-themed scavenger hunt in the building and pick up a variety of different Take & Make crafts for early learners up through teenagers. Outside activities included a Story Trail at the R.A.C., monthly story times at Sensory Tool House in Lacey, and the ever popular Children's Entertainment Series on Tuesday evenings at Huntamer Park (in partnership with the City of Lacey).

Lacey Library got its own outreach van! You can expect to see the colorfully decorated vehicle with the 'Anywhere Library' on its side to make appearances in Thurston County, bringing pop-up libraries, programs, and opportunities to sign up for library cards in the very near future.

Timberland News

After much deliberation, Timberland Regional Library is ready to move back to in-person story times and other events at the library. While the quantity of in-person programming will likely be low so we can also have staff available to do programs and provide services out in the

community, the programs we'll be offering in the building will be highly interactive and support our Strategic Direction of prioritizing ages Birth – Five, Underrepresented groups, and intergenerational opportunities in our local community. For example, in September we'll be offering Family storytimes on Saturdays (2 sessions), My Washington: a digital photography contest for teens and adults, the return of the September quilt show, a two-day drop-in show and demonstration by the Olympia Weaver's Guild, and many more. See <https://events.trl.org/> for more details.

In other news, Juneteenth (observed Monday June 20th) was added as a new Holiday Closure, in accordance with the State's guidance.

Expanded Access Hours (EAH) have been added for McCleary, Hoodspout, Naselle, Ocean Park, and Packwood Timberland Libraries. By registering for this service, patrons receive a keycard that allows them to access the library before and after hours, similar to how some gyms provide early morning and late night access. During these additional, unstaffed hours, patrons may access and check out materials, use computers, print, and take advantage of Wi-Fi and study areas.

Programming & Outreach (Virtual (May, In-Person/Hybrid June - Aug):

May

Youth: 19 programs attended by 308 people

Teen/Adult: 14 programs attended by 75 people

Outreach: Pleasant Glade elem. Reading night, NTPS Librarian-Teacher meeting, tour for Morningside vocational training participants.

June

Youth: 35 programs attended by 395 people

Teen/Adult: 38 programs attended by 276 people

Outreach: Table at Olympia Pride, Lakes, Woodland, Nisqually, Meadows virtual school visits, Big Brothers/Big Sisters visit, table at Lacey location of Thurston County Food Bank, Roosevelt elementary Family Resource Fair, Play at the Parks events at Meridian Neighborhood Park & Lacey Depot Park, presentation at Jubilee.

July

All Ages: 6 in-person events attended by 407 people

Outreach: Food Bank, Play at the Park at Lacey Depot Park & Rainier Vista Park.

Special: Thurston County Voting Center @ the Library 10 a.m.to 4 p.m. 1 week prior to August primary elections.

August

All Ages: 3 in-person events attended by 105 people

Outreach: Food Bank, Play at the Park at Woodland Creek Community Park

SLP statistics: 1,486 free books given at LA & 153 at HA

Circulation:

May

LA: 73,292 physical and digital materials were borrowed in May, an increase of 27% over May 2021.

HA: 2,869 physical & digital materials were borrowed in May, an increase of 1% over the previous month.

June

LA: 76,116 physical and digital materials were borrowed in June, an increase of 17% over June 2021

HA: 3,138 physical and digital materials were borrowed in June, an increase of 1% over the previous month.

July

LA: 78,804 physical and digital materials were borrowed in July, an increase of 17% over July 2021

HA: 3,883 physical and digital materials were borrowed in July, and increase of 2% over the previous month.

August

LA: 82,890 physical and digital materials were borrowed in August, an increase of 18% over the previous month.

HA: 3,866 physical and digital materials were borrowed in August, about the same as the previous month.

Building:

The youth services area rug was thoroughly cleaned, and additional carpet stains in various areas of the library were removed. New rotating display shelving was added to the Friends sale area.

Submitted by Holly Paxson, Lacey Library Manager

September 12, 2022

