



Library Commission Minutes

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 6:00 p.m.
Harrigan Centennial Hall

Members: Chair – Sandra Fontaine, Jeff Budd, Margie Esquiro,
Allison Lawrie, Callie Simmons, Rachel Worthey, Bruce Gazaway
Assembly Liaison: Scott Saline
City Staff: Jessica Ieremia, SPL Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sandy Fontaine called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Sandra Fontaine, Jeff Budd (by phone), Margie Esquiro, Callie Simmons, Bruce Gazaway
Absent: Allison Lawrie, Rachel Worthey
Assembly Liaison: Scott Saline (Excused – Attending City Strategic Planning Meeting)
Staff: Jessica Ieremia (Excused – City Strategic planning Meeting)

III. AGENDA CHANGES – None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 2, 2024

M/S by Gazaway & Simmons to approve the October 2, 2024 minutes.
Motion passed 5 – 0 by voice vote.

V. REPORTS

Commissioners: Sandy reported that she has been collecting newspaper articles on the Sitka Public Library; she also recommended a book **The Secret Lives of Booksellers** by James Patterson. Callie reported that as part of her Master's program she partnered with SPL for a Community Food Assessment and will present the findings on November 21st at the Library; she is still waiting to hear about the City's Community Preparedness Plan and how SPL is involved. Bruce recommended we read **100 Banned Books** by Karolides, Bald, and Sova. Margie suggested that we keep a list of outstanding maintenance issues and possibly discuss at each meeting

Assembly Liaison: Scott Saline– None.

Friends of the Library Liaison: Jeff Budd reported Margot will be doing the Geography Bee soon, the adult Spelling Bee will be in February; and the Friends will assist with the AKLA Conference in March of 2026.

SPL Director, Jess Ieremia– None.

VI. PERSONS TO BE HEARD – None.

VII.UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Library Staffing Needs – Sandy talked about a Letter to the Editor from Laura Rogers (SHS Principal) describing how helpful the library staff had been during the internet outage and what an asset the SPL is to the community. We discussed advocating for an additional staff at a future date.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

C. Review Ordinance NO. 2024-xx amending Title 2 “Administration of the General Code by updating Chapter 2.35 Bruce asked if the LC makes a regular report to the Assembly, Margie commented that Nicole Filipik had gone to the Assembly when she was President, but Jeff did not when he was President. We are curious about if that will happen again. Scott as Liaison does report on SPL and issues every month. Are we a Board or Committee or a Commission? Do we report yearly to the Assembly? Do we have to vote on the Code? Sandy will call Jess Earnshaw with all of our questions and then e-mail us with the answers. We do not have an administrative roll, we are an advisory board and work with Jessica, the Librarian. There are policies and procedures that the Library Commission approves – Room Use Policy, Donation Policy, Reconsideration of Books Policy, etc. And of course, we assist in any way that we can with the Library’s mission.

XI. PERSONS TO BE HEARD - None

VIII.ADJOURNMENT

ITEMS for the next meeting’s agenda: Unfinished Business= IT Update and AKLA;
New Business = Facilities & Maintenance Issues

The next regular meeting would be on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in Harrigan Centennial Hall.

We will have a Special Meeting to discuss the City Code 2.35 on December 4, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Hearing no objection, Chair Fontaine called the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Attest:
Margie Esquiro, LC Secretary

2025 Meeting Schedule

The Library Commission meets 7 times a year on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm. Meetings are held at Harrigan Centennial Hall.

February 5th
March 5th
April 2nd
May 7th

September 5th
October 5th
November 5th

