

Brown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes - 6/16/20

Virtual Meeting, via computer/phone. Present: Maryann Beaupre (President/Chair), Cyndy Bushey (Vice President), Tossy Garrett (Secretary taking minutes), Gail Hall (MAL), Kelli Anne Sutton-Bosley (MAL), Dale Kunkel (MAL), Sherri Brickey (Director). Absent: John Stevens (Treasurer) -joined late at 4:55

4:21- Meeting called to order by Maryann.

4:22- Approval of Agenda we only want to discuss how to reopen the library at this meeting. Instead of following our usual format, we will focus solely on this item. Agenda approved.

4:25- Librarian's Report. Sherri wants to begin with answering the questions emailed by Gail. We are in Stage 1 right now. For Stage 2, Sherri isn't sure exactly how many people will be allowed at one time- the 25% capacity set by the governor may be too many; Sherri is thinking 6 people might be right. Maryann mentioned that at the Senior Center anyone over 60 should have 200 square feet to themselves (or at least 10 feet apart). Gail is wondering about not letting people go into the stacks. We discussed the logistics of this, as well as the hygiene problem of people touching books. We will have signs and communication to 'look only.' Sherri said that when we do enter the next phase, it will need to be for limited hours. We have fewer volunteers who are comfortable working during the pandemic. Someone will need to monitor both doors to keep track of the number of patrons. Kelli Anne wondered if the lower door could be locked unless it was requested to open by appointment for handicapped entrance. We aren't sure if this follows guidelines, but might be a good option. Cyndy mentioned having a time limit for being in the building- maybe a half hour. There will be two computers open, for a half hour at a time. Rebecca will continue to do storytimes virtually on FaceBook. It will be the responsibility of the staff to monitor patrons' adherence to distance guidelines. Kelli Anne wondered if admittance by appointment only would be the best practice. We discussed and thought that this sounded like a good way to keep track of the 'flow' of patrons, at least initially until the staff become more comfortable with the new experience. We will also post signage stating that masks are required in the library building and have masks available for those who need one.

Sherri said that libraries are not required to keep track of each patron entering, although we will have everyone complete the virus screening questions and take their temperature before entering. Will children be allowed? Tossy is worried that young children will not be able to refrain from touching many books and surfaces. Sherri had thought they would be allowed, but during the discussion there were concerns about hygiene and the increased responsibility that puts on staff and volunteers. Sherri is also still getting calls for people wanting to use the community room for birthday parties, so clearly there are many people who are not concerned about hygiene.

When should Stage 2 begin? Rebecca just left on vacation for 2 weeks and will need to quarantine on return. Then Sherri will be on vacation for a week but will not need to quarantine after. She recommends July 15th, which is when the governor is currently planning to end the state of emergency. Sherri would like to have an in-person meeting before opening, which should be outside/distanced. It could be in the gazebo unless it is storming. Maryann said the senior center is looking into putting up a tent to allow for outdoor activities. Tossy offered her barn as a back-up space since it is enclosed but has air flow. We decided to meet July 14th at 4pm, in the gazebo unless weather requires a change.

Sherri has the 2 gallons of sanitizer she ordered along with a sprayer, paper masks, and Maryann donated a 'no-touch' thermometer. We may not give advance notice about opening to patrons if we

decide to open directly after our next meeting (a soft opening might be nice), or we could also open the next week if we wanted to give extra time to prepare. John thought that if the governor announces something before the 15th that changes our situation we could always call a special meeting. Sherri wondered about older kids being allowed since there are many 10/11/12 year-olds that come to the library on their own. We discussed and thought that perhaps middle school (11/12) would be the age break for allowing into the library, although preferably with a parent.

5:03 - Cyndy moved to adjourn the meeting, Dale seconded; voted & moved. Meeting adjourned.