

Howey-in-the-Hills Library Board Meeting  
Marianne Beck Library  
112 West Central Avenue

Date March 4, 2021

Attendance: Board Members Jim Steele, Tahsia O'Keefe, Rosemary Soto, Beth Flack, Marcia Schneider, Director Tara Hall; Friends of the Library President JoJo Lowe, Vice President Fran Wagler; Citizens Vicki Steele, and Mike McClenny.

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Jim Steele at 7:03 pm.

The minutes of January 7, 2021 were read. There needs to be two spelling corrections of the names MacFarlane and Carissa. Minutes were approved with the corrections. Motion to accept made by Tahsia O'Keefe and seconded by Beth Flack and motion passed.

Directors Report: See attached report.

Business Presented:

Jojo Lowe, President of the Howey Garden and Civic Club announced the club will hold their annual yard sale on Central Plaza one day only on March 12, 2021, and the rain date will be Saturday March 13.

There was discussion regarding the Dr. Seuss books controversy and reports from other libraries that the books are being checked out and then sold or kept. Director Hall said the Dr Seuss books in the Howey Library will be treated as reference books for use in the library only and by request.

Discussion about WiFi hot spots being available at the library to check out. T Mobile has a program to offer. The cost is \$90.00 per device and a \$29.40 data charge per month per device. George Taylor, Director Of Lake County Library Services, is checking into a Federal grant to help the program. Director Hall will also present this to the Town Council at mid budget year. Tavares and Leesburg are using the system.

The Lake County Library System has acquired licensing for outdoor movies. The Howey Library could use the basketball court. The library would need to supply the screen and equipment to show the movies. Cost for the purchase of equipment not known at this time.

Director Hall announced that at the Libraries Directors Meeting today the library system has teamed up with the Lake Animal Shelter to offer free adoption services upon presenting a library card. This will take place April 4 through the April 10, 2021.

Tahsia O'Keefe reported the following from the recent Advisory Board Meeting:  
E-books are now available for all Lake County children  
The Library System recently received a \$25,000 grant for archiving services

Peggy Clark offered to organize Howey Library documents for archiving

For the entire month of May county libraries will be offering to remove \$1.00 of overdue book fines for each item of a nonperishable human food or pet food up to \$25.00 in fines. Discussed what the situation on fines is for Howey Library.

Founder's Day: a community member has offered to have a quilt to auction off for raising funds for children's programs at the event.

Chess Club: There were 15 children attending Monday, March 1. they have a new instructor Lincoln

Louchs.

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Notes on the LEC Grand Opening:

Fran Wagler reported that there will be two videographers, one from the county and one from Mission Inn.

Jim and Vicki Steele are arranging for the stories and poems the children wrote over the summer to be published per Amazon and presented to the children at the opening. The Friends of the Library will fund the project from donations earmarked for children's programs.

Target will decorate a pull apart cupcake cake as a book. Refreshments are planned to feed 100 people.

Historical items are being collected for display to depict the development of Howey Library from its beginning as an Eagle Scout project to the new expansion.

Discussion about use of the LEC by the public concluded that for the present the room will be available for library functions and programs first and then community non-profit groups such as the Men's Club, the DAR, and training for the Police Department. Reviewing the March Calendar for library programs indicated there is not a lot of free space for others. We have a copy of the Leesburg contracts and room use agreements for reference. We will revisit this in 6 months.

Motion to adjourn was made by Rosemary Soto, seconded by Beth Flack and carried.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marcia Schneider*

Marcia Schneider, Secretary  
(electronically signed)