

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
LIBRARY BOARD**

Chairperson – Diane Holl-Rambo -- Talkeetna	Big Lake – Joanna Walch	Sutton – Marci Hawkins
Vice Chair – Georgia Knazovich – Wasilla	Palmer – Susan Pougher	At Large 1 – Kathleen Shoop
Secretary – Ann Yadon – Trapper Creek	Willow – Mary Sanford	At Large 2 – Martha (Marty) Kincaid

AGENDA

**REGULAR MEETING
Willow Public Library and Zoom**

**August 13, 2022
10:00 AM**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING
 - A. April 9, 2022
- VI. BOROUGH STAFF REPORT
 - A. Hugh Leslie
 - B. Librarians
- VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – 3 minutes per person
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Report to Assembly
 - B. Budget hearings
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. “Year End” review/Planning
- X. ADVOCACY
 - A. Current needs
- XI. CORRESPONDENCE
- XII. MEMBER COMMENTS
- XIII. NEXT MEETING
 - A. September 10, 2022 Talkeetna Public Library and Zoom meeting

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

August 13, 2022

1 **MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**
2 **LIBRARY BOARD**

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4 Chairperson – Diane Holl-Rambo -- Talkeetna Big Lake – Vacant Willow – Mary Sanford
5 Vice Chair – Georgia Knazovich – Wasilla Palmer– Susan Pougher At Large 1 – Kathleen Shoop
6 Secretary – Ann Yadon – Trapper Creek Sutton – Marci Hawkins At Large 2 – Martha (Marty) Kincaid
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8 **Draft Minutes**

9 **REGULAR MEETING**

April 9, 2022

10 **Zoom/Wasilla Host**

10: 00 am

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13 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 14
15 A. After reviewing the formal document, the Board reiterated its vote from the March
16 meeting to approve Library Board Resolution 22-01. The resolution recommends that the
17 Assembly approve the library budgets as submitted by the Recreation and Library
18 Services Staff and the librarians.
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20 B. All the libraries and the Friends/Advocates/Library Association groups are planning for a
21 return to in-person Summer Reading Programs. Summer Reading Programs are key for
22 preventing the loss of children’s reading skills over the summer vacation.
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24 C. Thank you to Paige Moore who has been the Big Lake representative. Her resignation
25 was effective as of 31 March.

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27 **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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29 Meeting was called to order at 10:01

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31 **II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

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33 Members present and establishing a quorum were: Diane Holl-Rambo, Georgia
34 Knazovich, Ann Yadon, Susan Pougher, Marci Hawkins, Mary Sanford, and Marty
35 Kincaid. Kathleen Shoop joined 10:06.

36
37 Staff Present: Hugh Leslie, Recreation and Library Services Manager, Anya Kean, Big
38 Lake Librarian; Juli Buzby, Sutton Librarian; Geraldine Denkwalter, Talkeetna
39 Librarian; Cassidy Owen, Talkeetna Assistant Librarian, Zane Treesh, Wasilla
40 Librarian; and Beth Skow, Palmer Librarian.

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42 **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –**

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44 Add under Old Business – Status of changes to Handbook

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46 Motion: Approve agenda as amended: Ms. Knazovich moved, Ms. Pougher second,
47 motion carried.

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IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

A. February 12, 2022

Motion: Approve minutes as amended: Ms. Knazovich moved, Ms. Sanford second, motion carried.

VI. BOROUGH AND LIBRARY STAFF REPORT

A. Hugh Leslie – MSB Recreation and Library Services Manager – On Thursday (April 7), budgets were presented to the Assembly by Department Heads. Community Development Director Eric Phillips presented the department’s budgets. No questions came from the Assembly and no comments regarding the libraries or their funding. Time will tell as the process continues. Capital budgets are also out in draft, and there a couple of projects for libraries in that. Will know better as process continues. The Assembly has the purview to add or remove projects from these budgets. Encourage the Library Board members to attend virtually or otherwise to the budget meetings. The Recreation and Library Services Secretary was back, but is gone again and should return on the 18th. Include Hugh and Jill Irsik on any communications until that time.

B. Anya Kean – Big Lake Librarian – Wrapping up end of year for budget items. Getting ready for Summer Reading Program (SRP). Some of the SRP programs will be in person this year for the first time since 2020. Most of the ice and snow is now gone, but there is a lot of traction sand left on the pavement so cleaning that up. The Bird Sanctuary has given the library a display that shows the type of birds that can be seen this time of year. The Big Lake Advocates now have a slate of officers and a budget, and they will be funding part of the SRP programs that can’t be met under the Borough budget. They’ve also applied for a couple of grants. Big Lake has received a grant for \$3,000 from the Big Lake Community Council for shelves for the Alaska reading room. Shelves that were ordered last year are currently in Anchorage and will arrive soon and be installed. The Fire Marshal was happy with the state of the library.

C. Geraldine Denkewalter – Talkeetna Librarian – Several new programs have started recently. There is a gardening group, and they will be doing a seed start swap and potluck on April 20th. A 5-week genealogy class has been ongoing. Stone Soup, an international cooking program will begin at the end of April. CPR training for the northern valley was held at the library. As in the past, the library is investigating joining with Trapper Creek and/or Willow Library for some of the SRP, and planning other programs. Borough Operations and Maintenance personnel have been up to take care of several small things and also to refurbish the carpet squares in the craft closet after a problem with shrews. The driveway parking lot are slowly becoming snow free, but there is a long way to go for the piled up snow along the edges.

93 D. Juli Buzby – Sutton Librarian -- The Sutton Friends of the Library are doing the
94 annual Easter Basket silent auction. The number and variety of baskets donated is really
95 amazing. Winners will pick up their baskets on Good Friday. An I Spy display has been
96 very popular and a lot of fun for the children. The in-person after school program is
97 continuing, and the kids are so excited to be back in the library. Parent Café has started
98 again in conjunction with R.O.C.K. Mat-Su – it’s a once monthly lunch after story time.
99 Parents were excited to see it come back and we’re going to continue that through the end
100 of the school year. Planning for SRP is ongoing, and will do the same as last year with
101 in-person, outdoor activities. There is a new volunteer team coordinator for the 2-day a
102 week summer teen program – she’s a previous participant of this program who is now in
103 college and back in the area for the summer.

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105 E. Beth Skow – Palmer Librarian – The on-line newspaper subscription for Borough
106 Libraries that was instigated by the Wasilla Librarian has been a major hit. This includes
107 both local newspapers like the ADN as well as the Frontiersman plus national
108 newspapers. Once people realize they can access these newspapers they are really
109 pleased. We’ve opened up all of the patron computers now so that everyone can use
110 them, and Wi-Fi printing is now available – patrons can pay with a credit card. The
111 laptops that will be available for checkout were purchased through the ARPA grant and
112 are currently in IT being set up. Planning for SRP is ongoing -- presenters are being
113 booked as well as other programming. Reminder that the expiration date on the test kits
114 available have been extended.

115
116 F. Zane Treesh – Wasilla Library – The Providence Mobile Mammography Unit will be
117 at the Wasilla Library from 10 am to 7 pm on April 14th. In-person storytime has started,
118 and participation is going up. The Friends have a used book sale today (April 9th).
119 Funding for installation of the Story walk will be coming from the new Rotary Club in
120 Wasilla. The library has been very busy, with circulation for March at 21,244 and with
121 several days where there have been close to 500 patrons per day. This coming week is
122 the library’s time to appear before the City Council for any questions about the library
123 budget. The library is coordinating with the Wasilla museum about the Alaska
124 Illustrators Exhibit that’s coming out from the State library, and some of the summer
125 programs will be there. Kids Cupboard will again be by the amphitheater this summer to
126 provide children’s lunches. The 2nd annual Kids Comic contest is over – there were 247
127 entries, which is 4 times previous year’s entries. The contest was open to grades 1
128 through 12

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131 VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

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133 None.

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135 VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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137 A. Report to Assembly – Ms. Holl-Rambo reported that she had added talking points to
138 the report at the suggestion of several board members. The report was originally to be

139 presented earlier, but will now be hopefully scheduled on the 19th. Because of Ms. Holl-
140 Rambo's travel out of state, she will not be able to present, so Ms. Hawkins will present.

141
142 B. Handbook – Some question regarding the changes approved by the Board and
143 whether or not they need Assembly approval Mr. Leslie will work with Ms. Yadon to
144 figure this out.

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146 IX. NEW BUSINESS

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148 A. Resolution for library budgets. The resolution, Library Board Resolution 22-01,
149 which was approved at the March meeting was included in this month's packet. After
150 review, motion to approve the formal resolution. Ms. Knazovich moved, Ms. Yadon
151 second, motion passed.

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153 X. ADVOCACY

154
155 A. Ms. Kincaid noted that she has been going around to different libraries. Spoke with a
156 patron outside the Palmer Library who said she loved the library but has recently had
157 difficulty accessing the library's computers.

158 B. Ms. Kincaid further noted the numbers of homeless in and around libraries, and
159 suggested organizations who deal with mental health might have a solution. Palmer
160 Librarian, Ms. Skow stated that this topic is on the Borough librarians agenda April
161 meeting and will be discussed there.

162 C. Ms. Yadon reported that the American Library Association (ALA) has launched their
163 annual FY2023 Fund Libraries campaign. The FY2023 budget will include amounts for
164 the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to send grants to libraries through
165 the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) as well as through the Innovative
166 Approaches to Literacy (IAL) grant program. Dear Appropriator letters have begun
167 circulating this past week in the House and Senate. In previous years the late Rep Don
168 Young has always been a signatory to these letters. We will miss his advocacy for
169 libraries. In the Senate, please contact Sen Sullivan and Murkowski to ask that they sign
170 on to these Dear Appropriator letters. Ms. Yadon will forward the ALA link for the Fund
171 Libraries campaign. It is: www.ala.org/advocacy/fund-libraries

172 D. The Alaska Library Association Advocacy Committee met in mid-March. On the
173 agenda was an idea of having a network for library Friends' groups. Ms. Yadon will
174 contact the AkLA (Alaska Library Association) Advocacy committee chair to see if there
175 was any outcome on that. Additionally Ms. Yadon will check about State funding for
176 OWL and Live Homework Help this year, and if advocacy is needed.

177 XI. CORRESPONDENCE

178 Paige Moore, the Big Lake representative to the board, has submitted her resignation
179 effective March 31st. Our thanks to her for her service.

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181 XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

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183 A. Wasilla Library –Georgia Knazovich –Nothing further to add to Wasilla Librarian’s
184 report.

185
186 B. Palmer Library – Susan Pougher –Have begun having regular Palmer Friends of the
187 Library meetings. Palmer Friends are also having an Easter Basket auction as a
188 fundraiser with about 24 baskets. Lots of patrons in and out – it’s been very busy. The
189 Friends are looking forward to the SRP, and are investigating hiring a speakers for the
190 programs.

191
192 C. At Large 2 – Marty Kincaid – Asked if any libraries coordinate with the Boys and
193 Girls Club for the summer. Very impressed with the STEAM programs that Paige Moore
194 from Big Lake Public Library produces.

195
196 D. Trapper Creek Library – Ann Yadon -- Staff has recently been able to start ordering
197 materials to be paid for by the ARPA grant, and are using quite a bit of these funds for
198 the SRP. SRP will start on June 1st and run through Aug 10th. Both backpack lunches for
199 the week and a lunch on Wednesday are planned for the summer. During the pandemic,
200 Sunshine Transit delivered the backpacks to homes, but this year participants will be
201 picking them up at the library. These lunches are made possible both through the Upper
202 Susitna Food Pantry and Federal funding. After school programming is starting again
203 after the hiatus during the pandemic. The monthly Saturday Craft program is really
204 popular. SRP is a major program for helping school age children prevent “summer
205 slide,” – the loss of reading skills over the summer.

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208 E. Sutton Library – Marci Hawkins – Rep Rauscher and Sen Shower held a meeting at
209 to discuss proposed legislation. The hot topic was a proposal for Chickaloon Tribe to
210 hold police powers. There is a meeting on the 16th at the school to talk about proposed
211 legislation.

212
213 F. At Large 1 – Kathleen Shoop – Continuing to work with the YMCA which serves
214 children 5-12 years old both before and after school to include some camps and
215 swimming lessons. Looking for opportunities for community participation.

216
217
218 G. Willow Library – Mary Sanford –The Willow Library Association will meet this
219 coming week. Planning for a 5K run for the library in May. The library had a Leap into
220 Science program that was well attended last month. Summer organizing is ongoing.

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222 H. Talkeetna Library – Diane Holl-Rambo – Friends of the Talkeetna Library met
223 yesterday (April 8). Nothing further to add to Talkeetna Librarian’s report.

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225 XIII. NEXT MEETING --

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227 May 14, 2022, 10 a.m. Trapper Creek Public Library

228

229 XIV. ADJOURNMENT –

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231 Motion to adjourn: Ms. Knazovich moved, Ms. Pougher second, motion passed.

232 Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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Diane Holl-Rambo, Chairperson

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Attest:

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Ann Yadon, Secretary