

**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
Talkeetna Public Library and Zoom**

**September 10, 2022
10:00 am**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- VI. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING
 - A. August 13, 2022
- VII. BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS
 - A. Hugh Leslie
 - B. Librarians
- VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/AUDIENCE PARTICIATION – 3 minutes per person
- IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A.
- X. NEW BUSINESS
 - A.
- XI. ADVOCACY
- XII. CORRESPONDENCE
- XIII. MEMBER COMMENTS
- XIV. NEXT MEETING
 - A. Sutton Public Library and Zoom meeting

XV. ADJOURNMENT

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

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4 Chairperson – Diane Holl-Rambo -- Talkeetna Big Lake – Jo Walch Willow – Mary Sanford
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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**

August 13, 2022

10 **Zoom/Willow host**

10: 00 am

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12
13 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

14
15 A. Libraries are shifting from the Summer programs to the fall lineups. All report great
16 attendance at Summer Reading Programs and Summer lunch programs

17
18 B. Reference to some concerns regarding the lack of local control on the locks on the doors
19 and also the temperature controls.

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21 I. **CALL TO ORDER**

22 Meeting was called to order at 10:03

23
24 II. **ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

25
26 Members present and establishing a quorum were: Diane Holl-Rambo, Georgia
27 Knazovich, Ann Yadon, Jo Walch, Marci Hawkins via Zoom, Mary Sanford via Zoom,
28 Kathleen Shoop via Zoom, Marty Kincaid. Susan Pougher arrived at 10:06.

29
30 Staff Present: Julie Mitchell, Willow Librarian; Juli Buzby, Sutton Librarian; Geraldine
31 Denkewalter, Talkeetna Librarian; Cassidy Drake, Talkeetna Assistant Librarian, Zane
32 Treesh, Wasilla Librarian

33
34 III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA –**

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36 Motion: Approve agenda: Ms. Knazovich moved, Ms. Hawkins second, motion carried.

37
38 IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

39
40 V. **MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING**

41
42 April 9, 2022

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

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46 VI. **BOROUGH AND LIBRARY STAFF REPORT**

47 A. Julie Mitchell – Willow Librarian – The library was completed in October of last
48 year with the ribbon cutting in November. There have been a few hiccups since then, but
49 nearing the 1-year anniversary. Programs are shifting from Summer Reading Program
50 (SRP) to the school year programs. SRP and lunch registration was around 100 with 40-
51 60 participants each week. The programs were flexible, though there were a few
52 surprises. For the fall, the lineup will include computer classes, play group, and
53 storytime.
54

55 B. Zane Treesh – Wasilla Librarian – Circulation numbers have been very high over the
56 summer with around 20,000 in June and 21,000 in July. Summer Reading Program was a
57 big hit and sometimes filled the multipurpose room to near capacity with 100 plus
58 participants. Planning a break in programming for August before moving into the fall
59 programs. The Story Walk is open with 20 stations around the library. Statistics for the
60 Public Library Assistance grant have been submitted. Will be prepared for middle school
61 patrons as there is a pathway from the school to the library, and the library is working
62 with the school to make sure there are no behavioral issues. The Friends are having their
63 book sale “today” with lots of donations, and the cost is \$5 per bag, no matter what size
64 the bag.
65

66 C. Geraldine Denkwalter – Talkeetna Librarian – Assistant Librarian Cassidy Owen’s
67 (now Cassidy Drake) last day at the Talkeetna library will be August 22 before she starts
68 as the Library Director at Big Lake. Summer Reading Program had 140 registered with
69 75 participants on most dates. Each program date started with storytime and then lunch
70 on the lawn. Art in the Park was sponsored by the Library and the Friends at the Village
71 Park in Talkeetna during one of the Live at Five programs with about 75 kids making art
72 projects in the park. Taking an August break for storytime. School supplies are
73 scheduled to be passed out to school kids later this month. Absentee-in-person voting has
74 been on-going with a good turnout.
75

76 D. Juli Buzby – Sutton Librarian – Just as with the rest of the library team, Summer
77 Reading Program is over and planning is switching to what’s next. The end of summer
78 BBQ was attended by around 90 people, but the weather kept attendance lower than
79 previous years. This year marks the 10th year in the new building. Storytime attendance
80 has been “explosive” with 50 plus in attendance, which is nearly double the previous
81 norm. The new Teen Area funded by a Rasmuson grant has been completed.
82

83 VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

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85 None.

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87 VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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89 A. Report to Assembly – Ms. Holl-Rambo extended thanks to Marci Hawkins who
90 ended up giving the report because of scheduling issues through the RLS staff.
91

92 B. Budget Hearings – No issues cropped up this year for library funding. Several
93 Board members did listen to the proceedings.
94

95 IX. NEW BUSINESS

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97 A. Year-end Review/Planning –

- 98 a. Board members were reminded that the next meeting is election of officers.
99 Both the Chair and Secretary may need some computer expertise as support
100 has changed over the past couple of years regarding formatting of minutes and
101 agendas.
102
- 103 b. Recording of the MSBLB meetings has been a great help in accuracy of
104 minutes over the past years using Zoom.
105
- 106 c. Ms. Kincaid mentioned the “human library” headquartered in Denmark.
107 (“The Human Library is a registered international not for profit with
108 administrative headquarters located in Copenhagen, Denmark The Human
109 Library is designed to build a positive framework for conversations that can
110 challenge stereotypes and prejudices through dialogue. The Human Library is
111 a place where real people are on loan to readers. A place where difficult
112 questions are expected, appreciated and answered. The Human Library is a
113 Danish idea from 2000 and is now available in more than 80 countries.”) Ms.
114 Kincaid suggested this might be a way to connect to the seniors at the Pioneer
115 Homes and to listen to their tales. This might be a project for volunteers.
116
- 117 d. Discussion of some of the difficulties libraries are facing with both book
118 bans, issues with where books are shelved, etc. The Librarians are well aware
119 of these issues, and have the professional means to address these concerns.
120
- 121 e. Another issue that might be addressed is the Safety Issue of the doors not
122 being controlled locally, but through the Headquarters in Palmer. Also noted
123 was that temperature controls in the new facilities are also not controlled
124 locally.
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- 126 f. Advocacy for new facilities should begin to focus on both Big Lake and
127 Palmer.
128

129 X. ADVOCACY

- 130
131 A. Webinar regarding Library Board Training Resources is scheduled for August 23
132 at 4:00 pm Alaska Time. The webinar will walk participants through registering
133 and accessing Short Takes for Trustees, a series of 10 videos from United for
134 Libraries. While many of these videos apply only to boards that have the
135 authority to administer libraries, the information on advocacy in particular will
136 be useful. The email announcing this was distributed at the meeting, and was
137 forwarded via email prior to the meeting to all Board members.

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B. United for Libraries is an organization within the American Library Association which supports Library Trustees and Library Friends organizations.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

None

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

A. At-Large 2 – Marty Kincaid – Question regarding the volunteer network and how it works. Consensus from members was that many volunteers come from the Friends, Library Advocate, or Library Association members. Currently there is a new issue prompted by a Human Resources memo that requires volunteers to complete training.

B. Wasilla Library – Georgia Knazovich – Wasilla Friends book sale is taking place“today” and there will be a really big sale in September.

C. Palmer Library – Susan Pougher – Summer Reading Program was very popular with lots of kids in attendance. Most presentations were outside, and they included programs on rescue dogs, raptor center, and a race. The end of summer picnic was also well attended. The Friends did have an Easter Basket sale to raise money, and are planning for Halloween.

D. Big Lake – Jo Walch – Summer programs went very well with crafts, a talent show, and much more. An incubator with eggs was in the library and everyone was interested to watch the results. The art gallery near the entrance featured a kids art show. A going away party for Anya was held. Big lake is looking forward to meeting Cassidy as the new library director.

E. Trapper Creek Library – Ann Yadon -- Saturday craft day has been a hit – it is on the 2nd Saturday of the month. Summer Reading Program went well, and the staff is beginning to plan for the fall and winter regular programming. Because of the Wednesday early release from school, the staff may have to rework the after school program’s schedule.

F. Sutton Library – Marci Hawkins – End of year picnic was a bit quieter than usual, but between the weather and Covid, it was still well attended.

G. At Large 1 – Kathleen Shoop – Ms. Shoop reported that she stopped at the two northernmost Borough libraries in Trapper Creek and Talkeetna. She noted that she had difficulty finding the Trapper Creek Library coming south, and that the Talkeetna Library had just the two routine library signs.

H. Willow Library – Mary Sanford – Summer programs went well, and looking forward to the coming fall and winter programming.

184 I. Talkeetna Library – Diane Holl-Rambo – Friends of the Library completed a beginner
185 disc golf course with 6 “holes.” The Story Walk on the library trail is well used. Sad to
186 see Cassidy go, but glad she is staying within the Borough library team.
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188 XIII. NEXT MEETING --
189 September 10, 2022, 10 a.m. Talkeetna Public Library
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191 XIV. ADJOURNMENT –
192 Motion to adjourn: Ms. Pougher moved, Ms. Knazovich second, motion passed.
193 Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.
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Diane Holl-Rambo, Chairperson
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201 Attest:
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Ann Yadon, Secretary
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