

Meeting Minutes

Seaside Public Library Special Meeting

Seaside Public Library Community Room

January 2, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order by Tess Ratty, chair, at 2:30PM.
 - a. Chair Ratty welcomed the guests to the meeting and also those attending via zoom. She mentioned that the meeting would be [recorded](#) and available at a later date on the city's website. She also reminded the guests that as this is an official meeting of the library board, speaking outside of public comment period is not permitted.
2. Roll Call
 - a. Board members present: Kathleen Teeple, Eve Marx, Meagan Hughes, Tess Ratty
 - b. Board members absent: Cheryl Adamscheck
 - c. Other in attendance: Council liaison Tita Montero and Library Director Jennifer Reading
3. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Chair Ratty asked that the agenda be approved with one change – that public comment be moved to after the opening remarks – the modified agenda was approved
4. Opening remarks by Board Chair
 - a. This is a special meeting of the library board to review two requests for reconsideration
 - b. Each title will be reviewed separately following the same process
 - c. The library director will present an overview of the library policies
 - d. Emily O'Neal, chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee for the Oregon Library Association, will join via zoom and give a presentation about First Amendment and public libraries
 - e. The first item under review will be introduced
5. Public Comment (limited to 2 minutes)
 - a. Sara Mullery of Seaside
 - b. Gerry Kawamura of Seaside
 - c. Cooper Boggs of Warrenton
 - d. Russ Mead of Seaside
 - e. Pam Schwenzer of Seaside
 - f. Tom Schwenzer of Seaside
 - g. Jessie Reed of Seaside
 - h. Donna Benefiel of Seaside
 - i. Tessa James Scheller of Warrenton
 - j. Andrew Adams of Seaside
 - k. Pat Lehman of Seaside
 - l. Ann Branson of Seaside
 - m. Aleya Butler of Seaside
 - n. Rosanne Parry of Portland
 - o. Ted Cooper of Seaside
 - p. Jody Block of Seaside
 - q. Kate Skaggs of Seaside

6. Review of Library Policies
 - a. Director Reading read the Seaside Public Library's mission and reviewed some highlights of the collection development policy along with the reconsideration process
7. Libraries and the First Amendment
 - a. Emily O'Neal, chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee for the Oregon State Library joined via Zoom and spoke about how the First Amendment applies to the role of the public library
8. First Item Under Consideration – And Tango Makes Three by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell
 - a. Director Reading opened this agenda item by reminding the members of the review committee that they will have set aside their personal beliefs and will evaluate the material based on the standards outlined in the library's collection development policy.
 - b. She outlined the following guidelines:
 - i. Consider the material as a whole – passages or parts of the work in question should not be pulled out of context
 - ii. Consider the material's relevance to the library's mission and collection development policy
 - iii. Consider if the material is suitable for the intended audience
 - iv. Does the material reflect accuracy, authority, and literary or artistic merit
 - v. Does the material reflect community interests
 - vi. Are there reviews and recommendations from reputable sources
 - c. She asked the board:
 - i. Did they have any questions about the guidelines – there were none
 - ii. Did they have any questions about the content of the requests for reconsideration forms and whether or not were they filled out correctly and completely so that they could understand the complaint – they didn't have any questions and felt they were filled out correctly
 - iii. Did everyone have an opportunity to read the entire item – they all said they had
 - d. Chair Ratty handed out the material reconsideration form to each board member which contains three questions
 - i. Have you read the material entirely? Yes or no.
 - ii. Does the material meet the library's mission statement and collection development policy? Yes or no.
 - iii. Should the material be retained in Seaside Public Library? Yes or no.
 - e. Chair Ratty collected the forms and announced that the library board had voted to retain the title And Tango Makes Three in the library's collection.
9. Second Item Under Consideration – When Aidan Became a Brother by Kyle Lukoff
 - a. Following the same procedure in item number 8, Chair Ratty announced that the library board had voted to retain the title in the library's collection.
10. Closing Remarks
 - a. Director Reading thanked the board for their time and for the individuals who showed up to share their thoughts and that the board has voted to recommend that both items be retained in the library collection. She will notify the individuals who submitted the

requests for reconsideration of the decision. She also said that the city would be sending out a press release summarizing the outcome of the meeting.

11. Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 3:27PM