

## **McKINNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD**

**JANUARY 17, 2013**

The McKinney Public Library System Advisory Board met in regular session in the Dulaney Room of the Roy and Helen Hall Library, 101 East Hunt Street, McKinney, Texas on January 17, 2013 at 5 p.m.

Board members present: Jo Dell'Antonia, Amanda Frady, Judy Gay, Kevin Magavern, Marilyn Moore, Jonathan Perera, Himanshu Sharma.

Absent: None

Staff present were Beth Scudder, Library Director, Susan Kusterbeck, Genealogy Librarian and ESL Coordinator, and Linda Long, Library Administrative Assistant as transcriber.

### **13-031** Minutes of the Library Advisory Board Meeting of November 15, 2012

Board members unanimously approved the motion by Board member Jo Dell'Antonia, seconded by Jonathan Perera, to approve the minutes as presented.

## **REPORTS**

### **13-032** Discuss Genealogy Report

Mrs. Kusterbeck reported that the Genealogy Department has been very busy over the last year. She has done over 500 searches just from e-mail and phone requests. Many people come to the library to use our resources. One lady came in from Midland the day after Christmas braving the snowy streets and stayed from the time we opened until 6 p.m. Visiting our Genealogy Department was one of her goals for her visit and she was not going to let the weather stop her.

The Genealogy Department handles various types of requests. A lawyer was searching for information on the start of a certain plant in Frisco in order to enable him to check on the laws at the time the plant was opened. One patron asked for the name and any other information on a musical group that was performing in the 1950's in McKinney.

One patron from Oregon was very satisfied with our service and has made many monetary donations to the Library because of this. This past year he wrote to the author of a book on Todd Warden (a marshal from McKinney) in order to donate a copy of the book to us. We have had requests for the weather report and TV listings for 1999. Stephanie Harris assisted with this request.

Mrs. Kusterbeck continues to learn about Genealogy and how to assist our patrons. She took a webinar on finding relatives, attended a program at the University of North Texas on the Digital Frontier in order to find out what is coming for Genealogy technology. She has attended programs at the ALA mid-winter meeting and at the Texas State Genealogical Society Conference. This was a good networking opportunity for Mrs. Kusterbeck. She learned how to research people by ethnicities.

For our Outreach programs, this past year she has represented the Library and our Genealogy department at a Lock-In at the Haggard Library, spoke to the Genealogy Friends of Plano and the McKinney Newcomers about Genealogy and our resources. Mrs. Kusterbeck has given tours of the Genealogy section to a group from the Country Lane Seniors Community and, in conjunction with the Children's department, a group of Boy Scouts. She sponsored programs held in the Library by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Collin County Film Round-Up training, and the Sons of the American Revolution.

The Library will be receiving DVDs for yearbooks later this year.

Another project is that of working with Collin County Genealogical Society and UNT's Portal to Texas digitization. This project is digitizing older newspapers. This is a great asset to our patrons and those interested in what life was like in the 1800's and early 1900's in Texas. It is accessible to all through the Portal to Texas History website at <http://texashistory.unt.edu/>. We will be working with the Plano Public Library in getting our older yearbooks (1914-1950) digitized.

In addition to being our Genealogy Librarian, Mrs. Kusterbeck is the Coordinator of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program for adults. We have had a great response to this program. The students range from no English skills to those who just need to build their confidence in using the English they know. We have students from Russia, Ethiopia, Denmark, India, Vietnam, Korea, Dominican Republic, as well as other Spanish-speaking countries. These classes are being taught by our dedicated volunteers twice a week. These are free classes. Students bring paper and pens. We supply the books and they are stored in the library. This summer we are going to change the programs to Conversational Groups. This will allow the students to practice the English they have learned in a more relaxed atmosphere.

In addition to Mrs. Kusterbeck's genealogy and ESL duties, she served temporarily at the circulation desk last summer. She is glad to once again focus on collection development for Genealogy and Spanish and other collections and better serving our patrons.

**13-033** Discuss Director's Report

The Library System held its Staff Development Day in December. One exercise involved asking staff to tell us their "Great Ideas". One example included finding alternate ways to dispose of our withdrawn items. As a result of that suggestion, we are partnering with Texas Library Consignments who will sell some of our items at their online store on Amazon. We will split the profits 50/50 with this group. Allen started working with this group and projects their first year's revenue to be approximately \$8,000.

Another suggestion regarded our Fax service. Currently our vendor, FAX24, is only set up to accept credit cards for payment. At staff urging, we are going to start purchasing pre-paid fax cards that patrons without access to a credit card can use.

City management has requested that we resolve the issue with our library fountains not working. They will be refurbished and should be operational in the next few months.

The Read Across McKinney committee has retained its author for its October 2013 events. The author and book title will be revealed in May and the events will take place October 16-18, 2013.

Sadly, I must report that Linda Long has decided to retire and she will be greatly missed. Linda's last day will be February 15<sup>th</sup> and we are currently accepting applications for her position.

The library will be closed on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup> for Martin Luther King Day.

The next Library Advisory Board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Board members unanimously approved the motion by Board member Judy Gay and seconded by Marilyn Moore to adjourn at 5:25 p.m.

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KEVIN MAGAVERN  
Chair

