

Little Falls Library Advisory Committee Meeting  
June 1, 2021  
via ZOOM

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair. The attendees included: Chair David Shumaker, Carolyn Bogardus, Library Manager, Grace Manubay, Library Board, Members Hannah November, Robert November, John Stodola, Kathy Davies, Secretary, and guest attendee Michelle Jaconi.
2. Approval of Agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously.
3. Pause to remember. The Chair paused to remember Little Falls Advisory Committee member Diane Mesirow who died recently. Hannah November noted that she had been active in our Committee as well as Friends of the Library for a long time. She was very interested in the library and wanted it to be successful.
4. Election of Chair and Secretary. The Committee's current Chair is term limited, thus requiring the election of a new Chair. Kathy Davies was elected, which required the election of a new Secretary. David Shumaker was elected as the new Secretary.
5. Branch Manager's Report. There are three vacancies at Little Falls Library, full time circulation library assistant, part time library assistant, and part time information library associate. It is anticipated that funds will be available in FY22 to fill these positions. All programs are being conducted virtually, the most popular being story times, health and wellness, lectures and discussions. In April and May, Little Falls Library held 38 virtual programs with an attendance of 1991, filled 3549 holds to go requests and filled 94 book bundle requests. The first 6 library branches opened June 1. Little Falls, with 6 additional branches, will open June 14. The remaining 6 branches will open July 6. Currently there is a mask mandate for library use. The summer reading program begins June 15.

The Chair asked if the meeting room will be available. The Library Manager said that it would be available some time in September. The Chair noted that the LAC would be attentive to the staff vacancy situation, and available if an indication of community support were needed.

Another question was about any plans to announce or celebrate the re-opening. The branch manager stated there will be a banner or similar recognition of the event. John Stodola volunteered to draft an announcement that committee members can send out via their neighborhood social media to remind the community.

6. Library Board. The Library Board representative noted that the libraries are reopening sooner than anticipated. The summer reading program begins June 15 and the theme is "Tails and Tales". MCPL will host a special event June 5 featuring Haben Girma. Ms Girma is the first deaf blind person to graduate from Harvard Law School. The event is cosponsored by Friends of the Library.

5. Old Business. Raising the goals of publicity and community engagement, John Stodola is pursuing an interview with the Library Manager which can be submitted to community organizations and posted on Next-Door.

6. New Business. The Chair welcomed Michelle Jaconi. Kathryn Scott has a conflict on Tuesday nights, and the possibility of having the meeting on another night was considered. The Library Manager said that the ZOOM link might not be available. Depending on the resolution of the issue of the ZOOM link, the next meeting could be either August 3 or August 5.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.