A regular meeting of the A. K. Smiley Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 in the Assembly Room.

Present: Marty Davis, Rosa Gomez, Bill Hardy, Bill Hatfield and Kate Pretorius

Also present: Sheron Bealer, CHAT Member; Dennis Bell, general public; Katherine Gifford, Literacy Program; Nathan Gonzales, Archivist/Curator; Cheryl Graybill, Contemporary Club; Jenesie Hardyman, Management Analyst; Don McCue, Library Director; Rebecca McCurdy, FOL President; Steve Stockton, RHMA

Bill Hatfield called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Bill Hatfield opened up the meeting for public comment. There being no public comment, Bill Hatfield closed the public comment session.

Rosa Gomez moved to approve the minutes for the November 9 meeting and the December expenditures. Kate Pretorius seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Marty Davis moved to approve the November 2021 Discards. Motion seconded by Bill Hardy and passed unanimously.

Rebecca McCurdy reported that the FOL membership is up; at the holiday sale 50 children visited Santa; about 50% of volunteers are using the credit card machine and the FOL is proposing to start using it in the bookstore in 2022; bag sales are doing well; we continue to receive a lot of donations.

Steve Stockton reported the presentation by the University of Redlands took place earlier that day and the student team provided a report on pricing, vendors and possible renters for the event pavilion as well as a comparison of local competition and a sample contract; the paver fundraising project has resulted in the sale of 100 out of 420 pavers to date, pavers will be water engraved on site and information about each donor may be available through potential software Nathan Gonzales suggested to the RHMA.

Prior to beginning his Director’s Report, Don McCue introduced Sheron Bealer from CHAT to report on the special writing class offered to a small group of CHAT members. The class was offered to provide a challenge to the members writing about their first days in Redlands. Five to six volunteers were involved as a part of this summer program. Katherine Gifford let the board know the CHAT members are extremely grateful for the program and the support library continues to give.

As part of the Director’s Report Don McCue reported on the following: the Governor has reenacted a mask mandate effective December 15 through January 15 for all public places, signage was updated throughout the library, shrine and Contemporary Club; the City has requested possible 2022-2023 personnel changes be submitted by 1/20/2022; he reported on upcoming programming scheduled for the first quarter of 2022; Nathan Gonzales reported that the 90th Shrine Anniversary dinner planning is ongoing and the 2023 dinner speaker has been secured; Don reported on minor infrastructure issues and various letters of appreciation from Spinet, Jennifer McAbee and Cheryl Graybill.

Bill Hatfield opened up the meeting to New Business to discuss 2022 Holiday / Facility Closures. Marty Davis made a motion to close the library in perpetuity on the following Sundays: before Martin Luther King Jr., before President’s Day, before Memorial Day, before Labor Day, before Columbus / Indigenous People’s Day and following Thanksgiving. Bill Hardy seconded and it carried unanimously.

A discussion about the one-time 2022 closures took place. Bill Hardy moved to approve the closure of the library to the public at 3:00pm with staff continuing to work their normal hours on Saturday, February 12 to prepare for the Shrine’s 90th Anniversary Dinner and the closure of the library to the public at 12:00pm with staff continuing to work their normal hours on Saturday, October 15 to prepare for the Library Gala. The request to close Sunday, July 3 was removed from the list. Kate Pretorius seconded the motion. It carried on a four to one vote with Rosa Gomez voting nay.

A brief discussion regarding the “Shore to Shore” collaboration with the Redlands Symphony Association was held. Library will provide the location of the symposium and help to recruit local immigrants to participate. Rosa Gomez moved to approve and seconded by Marty Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned to the closed session at 5:58 pm.

There was no reportable action taken during the closed session and adjourned at 6:32 pm.

William Hardy, Secretary