

**City of Bellevue  
Library Advisory Board**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2019**

**Opening**

The regular monthly meeting of the City of Bellevue Library Advisory Board was called to order at 5:00 PM on April 16, 2019 in the meeting room of the Newport Way Library, by Barbara Spindel, Vice President.

**Meeting Attendance:**

Board Members Present: Barbara Spindel, Chad Davis, Ankit Saraf, Jillian Selem, Gunjan Murarka, Kim Anderson, Cris Dreher

Board Members Absent: None

KCLS Representatives: Cecie Streitman, Bellevue Library Regional Manager; Kirsten Corning, North Central Librarian Services Manager; Michele Drov Dahl, North Central Interim Regional Manager

Friends of the Bellevue Library: Julie Schuman

Newport Way Library Association: Barbara Spindel

Guests: Lisa Rosenblum, KCLS Executive Director

**Public Comment Period:**

No members of the public were present for the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes for the March 2019 meeting were approved. They will be posted on the LAB One Drive and filed with the Deputy City Clerk.

**Regular Business**

**Agenda Item 1 – Discussion with Lisa Rosenblum, KCLS Executive Director**

Lisa provided historical background on the levy and the need to lift the lid as well as information about how KCLS plans to roll out the request. Main points include:

- 100% of the levy is dedicated to funding KCLS operating costs such as salaries and acquisition of library materials. Capital costs are addressed separately.
- The last lift was in 2010.
- Although revenue generated through the levy does increase over time, operating costs have been rising faster than the increases in revenue.
- Currently costs already exceed revenues. There were funds set aside early in the cycle when revenues still exceeded cost in anticipation of the current deficit situation, however KCLS is now at a point where those funds will be exhausted shortly and if there is no increase in revenue from a lid lift then KCLS will have to decrease operating costs in order to balance the books.
- KCLS is planning to put the lid lift on the ballot sometime in 2020.

- The current environment is likely to be tricky. Snohomish and Pierce counties just went through their own levy votes and while both ultimately passed they were very close. KCLS will be watching the upcoming Seattle ballot closely to see how their request fares.
- KCLS is currently in the process of hiring a consultant to help figure out the best timing as well as to help with polling to decide what to ask for/what voters will accept.
- Messaging for this type of request can be difficult because unlike a capital request where one can point to an obvious physical benefit to a community such as a new or renovated branch, it is harder for people to envision what they will "get" from funding operations.
- KCLS cannot legally act as an advocate for the initiative. They can only provide information.
- It is believed that library boards can act as advocates and therefore doing things like going before the city council and finding other ways of promoting the need and benefits of the lid lift amongst voters is an appropriate role.
- Even if the lid lift is approved in the long run KCLS will need to practice prudent fiscal management in order to maintain fiscal health.

In the follow up Q&A session:

- In response to a question about security in the Bellevue library branch Lisa indicated that although staff are empowered to deal with breaches of the behavior policy some of the larger concerns do require added security. Lisa indicated that she thought it would be better if the city supported more police presence because paying overtime to have police come in is expensive and uses up funds that she would rather see put to other uses.
- In response to a question about whether KCLS is considering doing away with late fees as some other library systems have done or are planning to do (Seattle included) Lisa indicated that she is on the fence about it. After all, current fees are quite low and the staff are good about waiving fees on a case by case basis when merited. At the same time, the fees do serve as an incentive for some people to return materials. Also, 100% of fees go back into the collection.
- In response to a question about what "good news" Lisa has experienced in her visits to all of the KCLS branches, Lisa indicated that being the keynote speaker for a recent citizen swearing in ceremony was a very emotional and moving experience.

### **Agenda Item 2 – Nomination for 2020 Officers**

After discussion Kim Anderson accepted a nomination for President, Barbara Spindel accepted a nomination for Vice President and Gunjan Murarka accepted a nomination for Secretary to be assisted by Ankit Saraf. Election will be held at the May 21st board meeting.

### **Agenda Item 3 - Review Of Library Board Advisory Forum**

Attendees at the forum reported that most of what was covered at the forum was about the levy and that the content was the same as what Lisa covered in our board meeting.

They also noted that overall attendance at the forum was low, with board members from only a few cities represented. It is unclear why attendance was so low but KCLS will be following up with board members to try to understand if there are things that could be done differently to increase participation.

### **Reports:**

- **Bellevue Friends of the Library**

The BFOL foreign language book sale is scheduled for April 26th/27th.

- **Newport Way Library Association:**

A preview for the upcoming production of Carmen is scheduled for April 25th.

Also of interest is a puppet show scheduled for April 20th and the upcoming sidewalk haiku program.

The recent Lego robotics program was very well attended.

There will be a children's book sale on June 1st.

- **KCLS Staff Report**

Bellevue Libraries: report is attached.

**New Business:**

The board expressed their gratitude to Kirsten Corning for her contributions since this was her last meeting.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM by **Barbara Spindel, Vice President**. The next general meeting will be at 5:00PM on May 21, 2019, at the Lake Hills Library.

**Meeting Agenda:** Will be distributed by Kim Anderson, President, prior to the next meeting.

**Minutes Submitted By:** Chad Davis, Board Secretary

## **April KCLS Staff Report**

This month's report highlights two of our wonderful librarians who work at Lake Hills and Crossroads Connection: Brian Lindsey and Joe Young.

My name is **Brian Lindsey** and I am the new Children's Librarian at the Lake Hills Library.



I have worked for KCLS for nearly two years starting in the Northeast Region at the Carnation, Duvall, and Skykomish Libraries. I also had a short stint at the Redmond and Woodinville Libraries as well before coming to the Bellevue Region. I am originally from Florida, and have been in the beautiful Pacific Northwest for five years. After visiting the Seattle area a few times I fell in love and decided to make it my new home. My journey began by being accepted into the Master of Library and Information Science program at the University of Washington. After graduating, I landed a job as Children's Librarian with Sno-Isle, but when I saw an opportunity to work for KCLS I took advantage of it. So here I am living the dream as a librarian for what I believe is the best system in the country!

I absolutely love my job as a Children's Librarian for several reasons. For starters I get to serve a very diverse group of kids from many different backgrounds on a daily basis since there are schools within walking distance to the library. That alone drives me to provide the best service possible. Currently when it comes to children's programming, Lake Hills is offering three story times. Preschool/Toddler and Infant on Tuesdays, and Young Toddler on Wednesdays.

In the near future we will offer a Lego Club program where kids will be able to build different structures based off the theme of the week along with free play. As part of our 2019 Target Goals in the Bellevue Region, we were tasked with providing more STEM related programming through the use of our ideaX kits. So look out for that! Finally, as we do every year

we have our incredible Summer Reading Program with the kickoff happening on Saturday June 22. Throughout the rest of the summer, we will have numerous programs centered on this year's theme titled *A Universe of Stories*.

From providing programs to having small chats with parents and caregivers, I treat every interaction as an opportunity to connect and build relationships throughout the community.

I'm **Joe Young** and I'm the Teen Services Librarian for the Lake Hills library and Crossroads Connection.



Joe and Philippa

I have worked in public libraries for over 9 years. Before joining the King County Library System, I served in various positions at Kitsap Regional Library, and the Contra Costa County Library. I discovered a passion for working with youth while serving as the librarian for the Contra Costa County Juvenile Hall and Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility libraries. This has resulted in my being a dedicated advocate for young adults.

A program that I am working on is our ideaX S.T.E.A.M. club which will be a monthly program for teens and tweens to engage with technology and explore different areas of Science, Engineering, Art, Music and Math. The plan is that each month I will bring a different ideaX

technology kit to our program partners at the Crossroads Community Center. I will lead a group of teens and tweens through a project, or explore a new piece of equipment or technology together, co-learning through experimentation and iteration. Projects will include creating sculptures using 3D printing pens, experimenting with robotics using Lego MindStorms, and learning about astrophysics through the Kerbal Space Program game.

I have a 3-year-old daughter named Philippa, a three-legged dog named Valentino and love to play Basketball and read Comic Books.

### **Children's and Teen Programming at Lake Hills and Crossroads**

Toddler and Preschool Story Time  
Tuesdays - 10:30AM – 11:00AM

Lake Hills

Audience: Children – Ages 23 months -5 years

Join Brian for interactive Story Times with your child that include Early Literacy fun with books, songs, finger plays, and body movement.

Story Times are some of our most popular events. Due to fire code we cannot exceed the maximum capacity for our rooms.

Infant Story Time  
Tuesdays - 11:30AM – 12:00PM

Lake Hills

Audience: Children - Ages Newborn – 12 months

Join Brian for interactive Story Times with your babies that include Early Literacy fun with books, songs, finger plays, and body movement.

Young Toddler Story Time  
Wednesdays 10:30AM – 11:00AM

Lake Hills

Audience: Ages 12 through 23 months

Enjoy an interactive Story Time with your toddler that includes Early Literacy fun with books, songs, finger plays and body movement.

Study Zone

Tuesdays - 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Lake Hills

Audience: Teens

Drop-in during scheduled Study Zone hours for free homework help from volunteer tutors.

Teen Zone: Gaming & Making  
Wednesdays - 2:00PM – 4:00PM

Lake Hills

Audience: Teens

Drop in and get your game on, study, or work on weekly or continuing craft projects! Hang out, study, play video games and pick up a good book.

Snacks generously provided by Bellevue Friends of the Library.

Certifications at KCLS  
Saturday, April 20, 2019 -2:00PM – 3:00PM

Lake Hills

Audience: Teens and Adults

Certification is an excellent way to prepare for achievement in the classroom or the workforce.

Take a certification exam in Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS), Adobe Certified Associate (ACA), Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA), or Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE) at this session.

### Circulation Statistics for the Bellevue Region for April 2019

BELLEVUE	89,054	92,924	-4%
CROSSROADS	33,240	35,321	-6%
LAKE HILLS	26,751	27,781	-4%
BELLEVUE TOTAL	149,045	156,026	-4%

## **Guest Speakers at Upcoming Library Advisory Board Meetings**

Rochelle Brown and Kathy Key – Economic Empowerment: May 21<sup>st</sup>

June 18, 2019 – Summer Reading Program Overview

Fall 2019 – KCLS Strategy update