

# SPANISH FORK

PRIDE & PROGRESS

Spanish Fork City Library Board Meeting

March 26, 2024

5:00 p.m.

Attending: Landon Tooke, Becky Hill, Angie Gorrell, Julie Rust, Ben Sansom, Scott Aylett, Tia Haycock, Suzanne Christensen, Taylor Haycock, Zylia Lopez, Melanie Shockley, Matt Duffin

Excused:

Call to order and roll call: Angie Gorrell at 5:01 PM

Items:

1. Public Comment: Tia and Taylor Haycock are just here to listen.
2. Approve minutes from February meeting  
First: Ben  
Second: Zylia  
Vote: All in Favor: Landon, Becky, Scott, Zylia, Angie, Julie

### 3. Upcoming Events - April

Board asked for updates on this at every meeting. Traditional story times end the last week of April. Gardening Club every Wednesday- very popular. Monday nights are computer skills lab- new program. All ages. Laptops set up for people. Family Art night- once a month ( the last Thursday.) Some Art projects might be individual, some might be family projects. Some supplies are donated, some are purchased. April 30th- Naloxone Training night. Library is a distributor, patrons can come and receive a kit for free. Patrons can come on this night and learn how to use it. May will be a little slower in terms of events, then June comes and it gets busy. ( bonkers) Monday July 28th at 6:00pm.- Summer program completion party. Board will get to come help along with the Youth City Council.

### 4. Extended Saturday Hours

Doing a test run on having more Saturday hours. There has been a really good turnout. So, effective April 1st, extended hours will no longer be a "test". It will be official hours.

### 5. Collection Development Overview

- o Summary of collection development policies and procedures

Feedback from the board on policies. Why and how we buy what we buy. We are working on updating our collection policy. "Goal of the library is to maintain an inviting updated collection". Many things taken into consideration when curating a collection. Recommended to weed about 5% of collection. We do a 3 year cycle- if it has not circulated in 3 years, it could be weeded. Our goal is that we want to have something for everyone. It's the public library. That means there may be things others do not like. Something that is not for

everyone. We buy over 7,000 items per year. Resources- publisher information. Review resources- professional sources. Amazon and Goodreads. Adult items- we have some that are standing orders- we automatically get them. We rely on the staff's experience as well. (They are motivated to make a collection that checks out. They take pride in what they do.) New reports we can now do that show what is checked out when. We also take into consideration book requests from the public- 1600 last year. Only 200 of those were not bought. Suzanne purchases for the children library. Hailey for teen. Amber for adult. Chrissie purchases audio and visual. We don't always get things right. There is a reconsideration request- patrons can submit. Library has 30 days to review. After Scott makes determination, patron can appeal if needed.

- Patron Suggestions:

- Exchanging certain book covers in the online catalog

- We appreciate patrons providing feedback. The LGBTQ stickers were a result of patron feedback.
- Britney Spear's book- The Woman in Me. We have 2 copies of it. Library website is for all- concern of having covers that some may think are inappropriate. Request is to replace covers. Our system automatically displays the image. We can override that and upload our own images or decide between multiple available images. More popular items show higher on the search results. Scott working with legal people to see if there are issues if we swap out the covers. Question- how do we determine what is "inappropriate"? Ben- it's challenging. Some people can say swimwear or romance novels are inappropriate. Who gets to gauge what is inappropriate? It kind of is a slippery slope idea. Julie- I wonder if we can come up with some sort of scale to try to objectify it? Or maybe have more public feedback? Or board feedback? This is not a single issue. Ben- Times I am looking for a book, I know it by the cover. Can be confusions without the cover. Suzanne- is there a way we can do this quickly? Can a book become available in the library without it being on the website? Asked Tia if there is a way to catalog without it being on the website? Tia- the point of the online catalog is to make things accessible. We can have a generic cover. It's ugly, but doable. In the new book area on the website- the title would not even show because the title is on the cover. Website- 2 different parts- look up and the part that shows what is new. Children books show for 120 days, adult books for 90 days. ZYlia- Is getting the back cover an option? Tia- It would be a toss up as to whether or not it is helpful. The crux of the issue is how do you identify what is inappropriate? Scott recommends using what the state standard is for covers as well, but he is open for suggestions. Suzanne- catalog automatically defaults to children's new books. Do any other libraries have the same issues? Scott has checked with a few- no other issues but has not asked specifically for their issues. How do we determine and do it in a timely manner? Homework assignment- think about this. Ask those in the community how would you determine what is appropriate? Could it be added but not put on the website- no, they are linked.

- Allow for more patron input on book purchases by having books on certain controversial topics reviewed by the Library Board before purchasing
  - Specifically- how do you identify what is a social issue? It's all relative. 3 items- 1- constitution of the family 2- political 3- sexuality. Teen librarian spends more time reviewing- significant impact on teen programs since she is spending more time reviewing. If we have a library board review- one concern is judging a book by its cover and key words. For instance the book- Speak Out and Make a Change. It's not what the patron thought- it's a different message. Reviewing books takes time. Ben- There's a potential for redundancy. Reviewing it before purchasing is the same thing. Who are the unpaid reviewers? Seems like not useful for our time. The reconsideration request kind of takes care of it. Who defines Social issues....??? Visitor- The library is already doing it, the fact that there are difficulties doesn't mean that we shouldn't even try. I think we can do better. There are things we can improve. There are things that people in our community would like to be modified or changed. Julie- Do people not know that they can fill out a reconsideration form? Visitor- We are purchasing books that support causes. The money has already gone to that cause. Visitor- we are talking about children's books. Staff are trained to have patrons submit reconsideration requests. Library has added a general library feedback form and business cards with a QR code to give feedback. All reconsideration requests will also be sent to the board. And staff members so they can help them make decisions. Zylia- multiple people review the same book, we are all going to have different opinions. There always will be different opinions.

Relatively small part of the collection falls under "social issue". 4% of all purchases in 30 years have been social issues not related to families. We buy more today than 1995.

Thoughts? Should we brainstorm? If it is 3% of the collection, is it the best use of our time? Genre based. Not content based. New sticker for "Christian publications" ( kind of like a clean reads)

- Move LGBTQ+ and other controversial items to a "Social Issues" section
  - By doing this, are we creating an area with a stigma associated with it? Make it harder for children to find? All kinds of books- is it too many different topics for that section? That section would be a warning for the parents to direct their children. Visitor- safe for children to get appropriate books. Maybe this is a parent issue? 1-2-3 to your next read coming out to help inform patrons. Help them better know what your kids are checking out. Program will be coming out soon. Empowering parents to be more involved. Couple other libraries do a guide to the library- explains to parents that they are the best guardians. Need them to take a more active role. Do we already have categories that the books that are considered social issues are already included

in. Julie- Wonders if we could poll the community to help define social issues? How to do this???! Visitor- Maybe don't change it to a different category, maybe just warn the parents. Could warning be put on the fliers? Zylia- not all parents parent the same. Would that make the library putting their opinions on books? Takes away the appreciation of differences. Tia- non-fiction easier to put in social issue section then it is to put a fiction book in a social issue section? Providing tools for families is most important. Common sense media.

6. Material Reconsideration Requests
7. [Summer Reading Donations](#)- We would like to have all donations by the beginning of May. "Adventure Begins at the Library"= theme. Circulation numbers now are usually low, but they are now at summer levels.
8. Adjourn
  - o First: Melanie
  - o Second: Zylia and Julie
  - o Vote: All in Favor: everyone :)

ADJOURN 6:25 PM