



MINUTES

LIBRARY BOARD
January 21, 2025
5:45 PM
IN-PERSON
MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Meeting called to Order at 5:49 PM

2. **ROLL CALL**
Members Present:
Member Meghan McGarrity
Member William Karnoscak
Member Adele Oliveira
Member Tamina Painter
Library Director, Margaret Neill

3. **Members Excused:**
Member Mark Lupinetti
Member Rose Cowan
Member Aurora Hvidsten

4. **Others Attending:**
Joan Marshall, Friends of the Library Board Member
Therese Martinez, Project Administrator, Clerk
Maria Sanchez-Tucker, Community Services Director
Phil Gesue, Aspect Studios
Georgina McKee, Friends of the Library Executive Director

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Motion to approve by Member William Karnoscak
Seconded by Member Tamina Painter
Unanimous approval.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Approval of December 17, 2024, minutes with correction that there was language missing in the copy that was in the original.
Motion to approve the Minutes as amended by Tamina Painter.
Seconded by Member William Karnoscak.
Unanimous approval.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**



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None.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. Margaret Neill, Library Director mmneill@santafenm.gov
505-955-6788

Margaret Neill stated that Aaron at Southside Branch Library and Jessica at the Main Library both completed their Libraries as Launchpads training and are now certified Entrepreneurial Librarians They will be doing some small business programming in conjunction with Economic Development. The Main Library also received the Laptops and Hot Spots from Economic Development that's part of a larger program for small business development and technology. There will be 25 laptops that replace the ones that are at the end of their life span. They are also getting 20 extra hot spots to add to the 80 the Library already has. Discussion on hot spots and laptops. Margaret stated that Creative Start-ups runs the certification program (for Libraries as Launchpads). Margaret Neill informed that all new hire have been on-boarded. The new Contracts Administrator is in process. Also, because of some one-time funding/GRT, the Southside and Main Libraries have the opportunity to get security cameras put in. Also some parking lot re-stripping work will take place at Southside and La Farge. Also ADA issues at the entry at Southside will be addressed/repared. In terms of Facilities, some of the things Southside is trying to do are are trying to attract more teens. The Gingerbread House making went really well, This was the first flyer translation into Spanish that were then strategically placed in certain areas. They had several Spanish speaking families attend the event. The City's Comms. Dept. assisted with the translating. They like to create just Spanish language programs in the future. La Farge made Krampus Masks. They had music and singing from the Santa Fe Opera (and Desert Chorale). They also had hands-on STEM programs, author talks, and Artisans by Design that was focused on India. Ana Pacheco's popular talks brought in 90 people to her first talk, and 89 people to her second talk. For a focus on teens they had a college essay drop-in clinic that went well. They are striving to get people to come in to show the Library is a place for teens to hang out. She added that the statistics that show circulation was lower in December because they are closed more days. There was a hiccup in Technical Services because they had difficulty getting books because of publishing delays. The publishers are catching up, so that is improving. They are working with the Friends to replace the public printing equipment and the coin-ops. They will be doing some upgrades on the Meeting Rooms Reservations (Policy), the Events Calendar, and the Website. They are using State Bond Funds for replacing the public computers and the computer management system.



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Discussion on using AI (Artificial Intelligence) to illustrate a book. Is there a policy for using technology so it is indicated that AI is used. Margaret Neill said there is no policy. Discussion on putting it in the catalog record. Maria Sanchez Tucker contributed to the discussion that the City has hired a consultant that will begin looking at policies, procedures, and training as to how the City will use AI. It could be a question to ask. Further discussion on AI.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mark Lupinetti, President of the Library Advisory Board, fmlupinetti@hotmail.com

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Guest Speaker: Daniel Hernandez, Director of the Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency.
Cancelled because of illness.
- b. Guest Speaker: Phil Gesue, Aspect Studios, developer.

Meghan McGarrity introduced Phil Gesue and stated that the Board was excited about Fogelson Library and what Fogelson can do next. So, having him here this evening is great so they can hear some of the other ideas coming up on the campus and how they can work together.

Phil Gesue said he e-mailed her a digital presentation. He said he would speak about what they are doing and their timeline. He is from New York but lives between here (Santa Fe) and New York. They bought a building, the Shellaberger Tennis Center a couple of years ago and converted it to a movie studio and have been very successful in recruiting some very large productions that have shot in that and some other campus filmings that have been used for production for many years. The RFP for the City's public sale of the number of its buildings that have been used for film production, happened around the same time that they were purchasing that building and getting it oriented toward film production. They applied for and won that and have been in negotiation with the City for a couple of years for that project. They were just voted, the City just voted, to approve the contract about a month ago in early December. So now they're waiting to close. It is a 45-day period. They have some title issues that they're clearing up. They're going to close imminently and then start work imminently on that project. That project essentially consists of the bottom third of the campus. So, there's a road that goes to the north of Garson Studio. If you know where that is. Garson Studio has the Screen in it and people



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know that. That road is going to be continued west and it's going to basically extend from one end of the campus to the other and everything that's below that we're going to be developing as part of the Master Plan Development. Basically, the name of it is Aspect Media Village. The concept is like a mixed use of what they call "studio village". It's a new type of a concept for developing a studio which came up with the development of a lot of urban studios over the last ten years. So, years ago when people built movie studios, LA, you could have a huge lot, and now it's much smaller. So, what they do, they kind of built a studio in the middle of the city and a lot of the things that used to be provided on the studio campus are prevented by the community. There might be a hotel that is adjacent, there might be housing that's adjacent, there might be a restaurant that you walk a couple of blocks for. What they found was people enjoyed these new studios much more than being on (the) lot because people like urban environments more than a shopping mall (20:00) and all that kind of stuff. It's part of a larger urban, pedestrian, integrated part of a fabric, trend in Architecture and living. So, that essentially is our plan for this campus. So, what they are doing is they're purchasing from the City, Benildus Hall. If you know the campus, it's in the middle of the campus. It's an office building. It was a music building. It was used for classrooms, that kind of stuff. It is really for the last four or five years, it's been used as office space for productions when they come in. Essentially the way that these buildings function, is that after the campus went bankrupt, the City purchased it and held it. The building that continued to operate was Garson Studios because Garson Studios was responsible for bringing in films which was important for economic development. So, there was a guy working there, (Claudio Rubin) that ran the studio for the campus, along with the campus. When it went bankrupt, he stayed and basically ran that for the City. As he recruited more and more shows, the show would need a building. The show would ask if they could use this, he basically creatively did the kind of the same thing that he (Phil Gesue) was interested in doing, which was figuring out how to make all these buildings work. As using Fogelson, tons were shot at Fogelson at this point, basically every building on that campus has had productions in it. Like the ones that primarily used were Driscoll which has an old gymnasium in it and that's right across the street from Garson, Benildus, and Garson Studios. Then there's a large piece of land that's kind of next to Driscoll. So, they are buying all that stuff from the City. They going to continue to use it the way they started to use it on an ad hoc basis but they're going to renovate the buildings. They'll have access to them now, and they are going to go out and recruit much bigger shows. They're connecting that to the Shellaberger Tennis Center which is essentially part of that. The Shellaberger was developed years ago as a non-profit, it was part of the school, then it was separated from the school as a non-profit, then it sold to private tennis guys. They then purchased it from those guys when they went out of business and



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converted it into a movie studio.

It works because it's adjacent to everything else and it's all connected by walkways. The whole Site Plan they are redoing so that it's connected in a much more urban sort of way. They're developing a bunch of other buildings. They're developing a large apartment building, they will be starting construction in the next few weeks. It's a 130 unit apartment building. That will bring a lot of people to the campus right now. They're adding retail, like an all day cafe in one of the front classroom spaces in Driscoll. They're redoing all the front of Driscoll. There will be a little private/public park, a big outdoor dining area attached to the little cafe. The cafe will be partially used for films and be opened to the public. It's a bigger version of "Counter Culture" with a much larger outdoor space. That will be open so there is activity on the streets so the people in the apartment building have a place to buy a coffee in the morning. The third thing they are doing is reopening the Screen. The Screen they've been planning with the guy who runs the Violet Crown. He's a very knowledgeable operator. They are redesigning the whole thing. With the interior they have a designer from Los Angeles. They're redoing the concessions. They're going to have a liquor license. It will be a really cool stand alone Arts theater, but also a Blockbuster theater. They will also work closely with Santa Fe Film Festival. For the past couple of years they have sponsored the Santa Fe International Film Festival that's in October. As a part of that they are helping them grow their business. They need a home, a theater. They will be using that for their operations and that's a big part of the festival that will be held every year. Very likely starting this October, they should be ready by then. The Second Phase is another apartment building, similar sized, 100-140 apartment on the other side of Driscoll. There's a big piece of land that the road that goes through creates. We will build that. A more distant Third Phase with six stages is planned. It will be the largest in Northern New Mexico. It will be the largest studio, non-studio. It will allow very big movies to come to Northern New Mexico on a regular basis. Those big movies have such a huge economic impact. Like he said they will be starting new construction on the apartment building in the next week or two on the Shellaberger parcel. They will be closing on the other City buildings on the next two to four weeks. They'll start construction on those almost immediately. They've been sitting on the plans for two years, so they are ready to go. They will see a lot of activity. Onate Hall at the end of the street to the north of Garson, they will demolish that immediately. The City has an obligation to put in infrastructure, in the next 24 months. You'll see new road systems down there, buildings coming up, a ton of stuff happening on the southern third of the property. The streets will be very wide with trees and bike lanes, massive sidewalks. It's quite an undertaking, but the City has financed and they are committed. Discussion on studios and re-purposing the existing buildings, bolstering the buildings. They have a total of six stages that they are fixing up and use cohesively. They're working with Claudio to coordinate. Discussion on Educational



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initiatives.

The Community College and high schools can come to the campus and do trainings. They have an obligation to do Internships every year. They're interested in an education program oriented around the Theater weekly. Discussion of involving the Library in the programs. Discussion on amount of seating at the Screen. Discussion of the affordable housing component in the apartments. Phase Two is 15%. They are thinking of doing the entire phase as workforce housing. The first Phase is 15% that they paid the fee in lieu as a private project. Discussion on working with the Center for Contemporary Art. They function in their own space. They didn't have the capacity. Opera Talks would be a great collaboration. Discussion on Fogelson Library fitting into the City's Master Plan. Discussion of new Central Library and rehabilitation of the existing building. They are in the conceptual stage. \$30,000,000.00 is the estimated cost. Funds will have to be raised. RMKM is the Architectural firm they are working with. They anticipating a two-year planning period. Discussion on brutalist buildings. Discussion on the Rainbow Tunnel at La Farge.

c. Group Discussion on the Weeding Policy.

Margaret Neill gave out the 2017 Collection Development Policy and the first revision of the policy. Discussion on HB123 (Book Banning bill) being heard again this legislative session and funding that can be cut off because of removing materials from the collection. Discussion of deadline dates. Member are to send suggestions by the next Board meeting on the revised/proposed revisions on the Weeding Policy Language (to Margaret) to incorporate. The suggestion was made to look at the existing Collection Development Policy and the Library Bill of Rights. Discussion on more or less specificity going forward. Margaret Neill will send a link to the Denver Library's approach.

Discussion on the Aspect Studios visit and the fee in lieu of. The City Policy allows this work around practice. Affordable Housing is not happening. General Discussion on multiple issues. Discussion on public comment and affordable housing in Midtown and advocacy by others including the Friends of the Library. Discussion of a first pass on Community Engagement as a possibility at future Board meeting.

d. Friends of the Library Report-Tamina Painter

Tamina Painter stated that Newby Harrod (FOL Treasurer) delegated to her to the Printer Contract. She feels they are being overcharged by Southwest Printing. She feels that they she needs some input from Library staff. Discussion on Printers, Copiers, Coin-ops and the difficulty of their use and the staff time needed to assist patrons. Discussion of servers versus cloud-based systems, color versus black and white printing, a new service agreement, the Library currently does not have



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maintenance service. The biggest level of dissatisfaction are the coin-ops. Tamina will re-review the contract and reach out with additional questions.

The Friends are planning a retreat on Feb. 8 2025, and brainstorming on moving forward. Discussion on programming, Summer Reading, prizes, and coordination. Discussion on a knitting guild.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Collaborate over Vision and Values Statements.
Meghan McGarrity had a chance to look at them. Smarty Goals were added to the sheets. William Karnoscak stated he shortened them. Margaret Neill reiterated the Mission Statement and spoke about connecting the Vision and Values. Discussion on the Vision statement. Suggestion to make goals of deadlines for the Board to strive for completing the Vision and Values. Suggestion to bring your favorite value to the next meeting. Send the input prior to the meeting.
- b. Update on the Operating Agreement with the Friends.
Margaret Neill stated the ball is now in the Library's court. It is now with the City Attorney's Office/legal. They are reviewing Newby Harrod's comments. When she gets it back from legal, if they're good with it, they will start the process of signatures. Discussion of the Agreement process.

10. NEXT MEETING

- a. Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 5:45 PM, at La Farge Branch Library Meghan McGarrity will contact Daniel Hernandez to be a Guest Speaker at the next meeting. Discussion on development Parking proposed at Midtown/Fogelson.
Discussion on recording on Book Banning being sent to the group.
Discussion on the digital presentation from Aspect Studios.

11. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn made by Adele Oliveira
Motion Seconded by William Karnoscak
Unanimous approval.
Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Liaison

Chair