

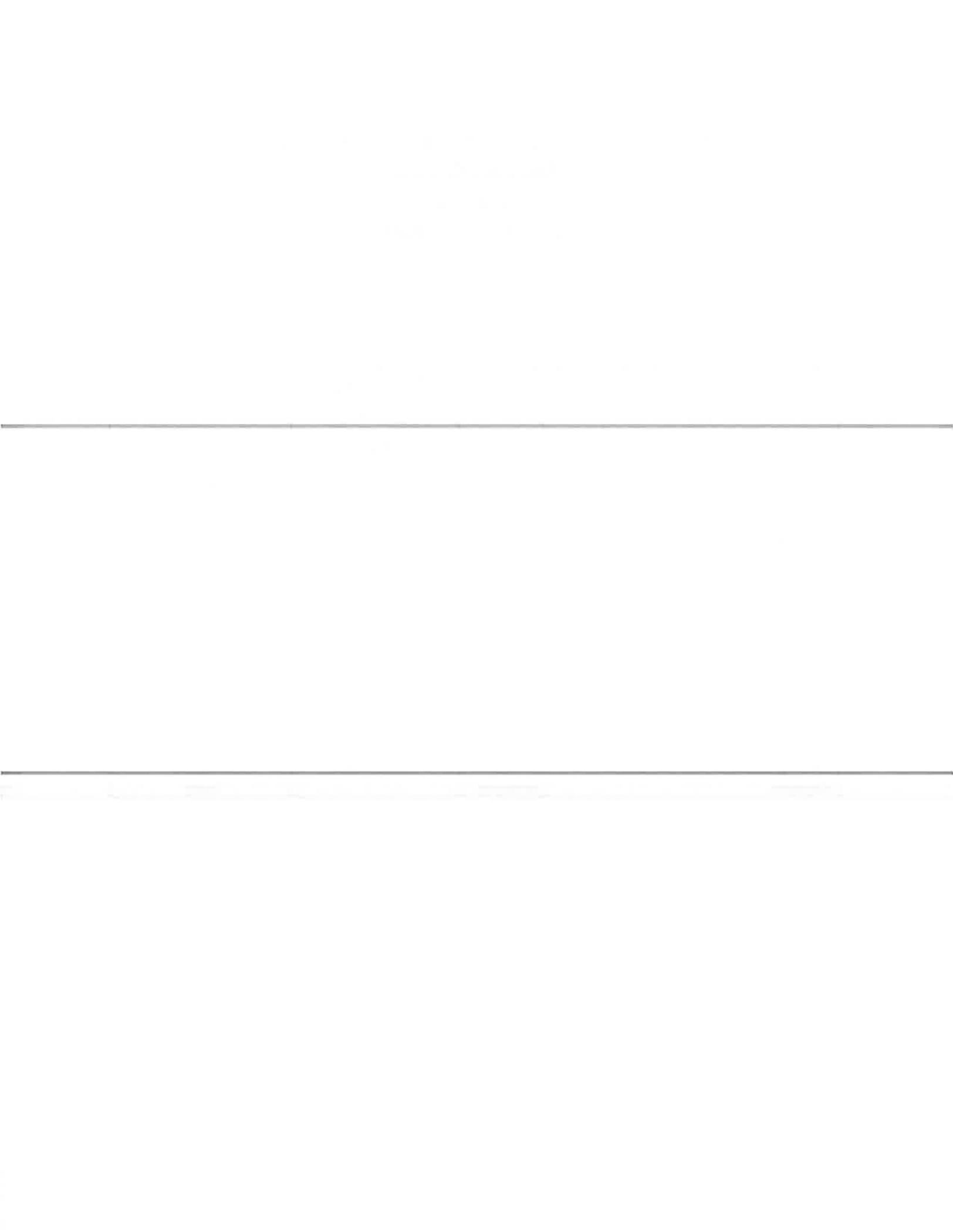
# Gladstone Public Library Board Meeting Agenda

**October 6, 2020**

**6:30 pm**

**Virtually Via Zoom**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Information Discussion Decision</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Library Board Meeting Call to Order	6:30 pm		Gary
Approval of August 24th and September 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting Minutes	6:30 pm	Decision	Gary
<b>Reports:</b> a) Director's Report b) New combined Library Board discussion c) City Council d) Library Foundation e) LDAC Report f) Gladstone Library Task Force g) Concord Property and Library Planning Task Force	6:35 pm	Information Information  Information Information Information Information Information	Mitzi Mitzi/Gary  Neal Mitzi Natalie Nancy Gary
Sharing Session	If time	Information	Everyone
Adjourn	8:00 pm		Gary
Next Meeting: November 3, 2020			



**GLADSTONE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES of August 24, 2020**  
Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM (Via Zoom)

**PRESENT:**

Chair Gary Bokowski, Natalie Smith, Michael Milch, Dr. Bryce Colson, Nancy Eichsteadt, Libby Spencer

**ABSENT:**

None

Also Present: Mitzi Olson, Gladstone/Oak Lodge Library Director; Neal Reisner, City Council Liaison; Laura Zentner, Director of Clackamas County Business and Community Services; Kathryn Krygier, Project Manager

---

**Call to Order**

**Round Table Discussion - Bylaws:**

Chair Bokowski said the sole purpose for this meeting is to discuss the proposed bylaws. He said the new bylaws would allow for an alternate member from each service area to fill in if a regular member is unable to attend a meeting. Michael Milch supports the change. Chair Bokowski feels that these alternates should regularly attend the meetings so they know what's going on. Councilor Reisner is not in support of alternates – he said they tried using them on the Budget Committee and it was very confusing.

Nancy Eichsteadt said she is still not on board with having only one Gladstone person on the library board. She asked other people for their opinions and they agreed that Gladstone is getting left out in the cold. Her proposal would be to keep two boards for at least two years and maybe they could meet together twice a year. Natalie Smith strongly agreed. She asked who wrote the bylaws. Ms. Olson said she drafted them based on prior bylaws for the existing Clackamas County Library Board of Trustees. She tried to incorporate the feedback from this board as much as possible. The proposed bylaws still need to be reviewed by Clackamas County. The name was changed to Clackamas County Library Advisory Board. Chair Bokowski said that the proposal follows the settlement agreement, which is a done deal. Laura Zentner said that there haven't been any changes made to the IGA. She said the Commissioners want proportional representation, which is what is in this IGA – she doesn't feel they are going to be okay with something that is not proportional.

Ms. Olson pointed out that the alternates could vote if they were filling in for a regular member. That's why it would be important for them to attend all the meetings so they are informed. Michael Milch said that there is a 60/40 split in favor of the Oak Lodge district no matter if you look at population or revenue provided, which is consistent with the way the County has done things proportionately in the past. He feels that a 3/2 split on members is good, and then the additional members equalizes it slightly more.

Natalie Smith feels that the people from the unincorporated Gladstone service area would be more supportive of the unincorporated side as opposed to Gladstone. There was further discussion regarding representation from the unincorporated areas and the possibility of a ten-member board. Nancy Eichsteadt still feels that having two separate boards is the best idea – at least for a few more years. Councilor Reisner said that Gladstone is not looking at this being a permanent situation – that they're going to be wanting to take back the Gladstone library eventually. Ms. Olson pointed out that they would have to pay any unpaid debt that was incurred for the library first. The Gladstone unincorporated area would then shift over to the Oak Lodge side so Gladstone would just be operating off of the revenue coming only from City residents to run that library. She said that the IGA has contemplated a lot of these different situations.

Laura Zentner asked the board to consider taking a leap of faith and letting this happen. She said they could put in a stipulation that says they could look at it again in a year. She feels they are looking at a lot of “what if’s”. She feels that Ms. Olson has done an excellent job at being fair and transparent and representing both sides equally and sees her doing that in the future as well. She values Gladstone just as much as Oak Lodge.

Chair Bokowski said he has a lot of faith in Ms. Olson and thinks she and Ms. Zentner have worked very hard. He said this is the first time in over ten years that Gladstone has had a shot at a new library.

There was further discussion regarding the history of the library project, the lawsuit, funding, etc. Michael Milch said he is in favor of what’s being proposed here as far as governance and if issues come up later they can look at them.

Natalie Smith said there have been problems for the last fifteen years so she feels strongly that it needs to be an equal board so that everyone’s interests are heard and there is fair representation. She said they have trusted the County before and have been “really screwed”.

There was further discussion regarding representation. Bryce Colson said he is in favor of equal representation more than proportional representation because of the history. He asked if what they say tonight truly matters. Chair Bokowski said it matters insomuch as it would look good if we had a consensus to propose these bylaws to the Board of County Commissioners. It wouldn’t look good to present a contentious report.

Libby Spencer reminded everyone that this is strictly an advisory board and the votes are strictly advisory. She said they need to trust what Ms. Olson and Ms. Zentner are doing because that is their job. She said that having an alternate gives us a little broader input from the community and having the person from the unincorporated area gives us three voices. Chair Bokowski added that the library meetings are public meetings, and anyone can attend and they can be heard. Michael Milch pointed out that the current board doesn’t have anywhere near the powers that are given to the board that is being proposed here. He likes the idea of having a real advisory board to the County Commissioners that will play a better role. He said they have still had some strong input with staff on some of the important policy matters that have come up.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mindy Garlington said that if you’re going to give Gladstone a library you need to give them a board. She asked why is it we can’t have a board that is a voice, a physical showing to the citizens of Gladstone that we still have a spoon in the pot of soup? Chair Bokowski said there will be one person from the unincorporated part of the Gladstone service area, there will be an alternate, and a liaison. Ms. Garlington said that is still only one vote.

Ms. Olson said that most of what you will learn at a library board meeting will come from her or other staff and they listen to every one of their patrons and share that information.

Chair Bokowski said that given the fact that the County is not about to go back and renegotiate the settlement agreement and, thus, the IGA, it is sort of a done deal in terms of the makeup of the library board being proportionate so they are beating a dead horse here. Nancy Eichsteadt said whenever they say something that they’re having a problem with “you guys” are arguing with them, which makes her feel like they’re not being listened to. Chair Bokowski said he could say the same because they have tried to explain that they have to have proportionate representation and that can’t be changed.

Ms. Olson suggested taking a vote whether or not this library board supports the presented bylaws or not and if not, they will note the reasons.

Libby Spencer said in Article 4, the paragraph following #6, regarding expiration dates for terms – the math doesn't make any sense. Ms. Olson said they could modify that language if they need to. Ms. Spencer suggested modifying it to say: *no more than two expire in a year*. Ms. Olson agreed. Ms. Spencer said on the next page, regarding vacancies, she suggests that the vacancy should be filled the same way that new appointments are made at the end of the term, rather than having the board appoint their own temporary replacement. Natalie Smith suggested considering the alternates to fill the vacancy until there's a new appointment. There was further discussion.

Ms. Olson went over the procedure for the initial recruitment for the board.

Chair Bokowski asked where in the bylaws it addresses alternating the meeting locations – Ms. Olson said it isn't in the bylaws, but she could put that in if it's important. Everyone agreed that it is important.

*Nancy Eichsteadt made a motion to take a vote on the bylaws as they're printed currently, including the changes that were discussed. Motion was seconded by Libby Spencer. Chair Bokowski took a roll call vote: Libby Spencer – yes. Michael Milch – yes. Nancy Eichsteadt – no. Natalie Smith – no. Bryce Colson – no. Chair Bokowski – yes. Vote was tied (3-3).*

Ms. Olson asked what the reason was for the no votes – they all agreed that it came down to one issue, which is the makeup of the proposed board. She asked if they changed it to a ten-member board so that the City of Gladstone would have two representatives, the Gladstone unincorporated area would have two representatives, and Oak Lodge would have six representatives would they agree to the bylaws?

Nancy Eichsteadt felt that would be a whole different meeting. Bryce Colson agreed. He would like to see 2/2 or 3/3 and somebody who can settle a tie if there's a discrepancy. Ms. Eichsteadt and Ms. Smith agreed. Ms. Olson asked to clarify that it's not about having more than one representative for the City of Gladstone; they are asking for equal representation – that is correct, whatever number that boils down to. There was discussion regarding the Senate and House of Representatives.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:**

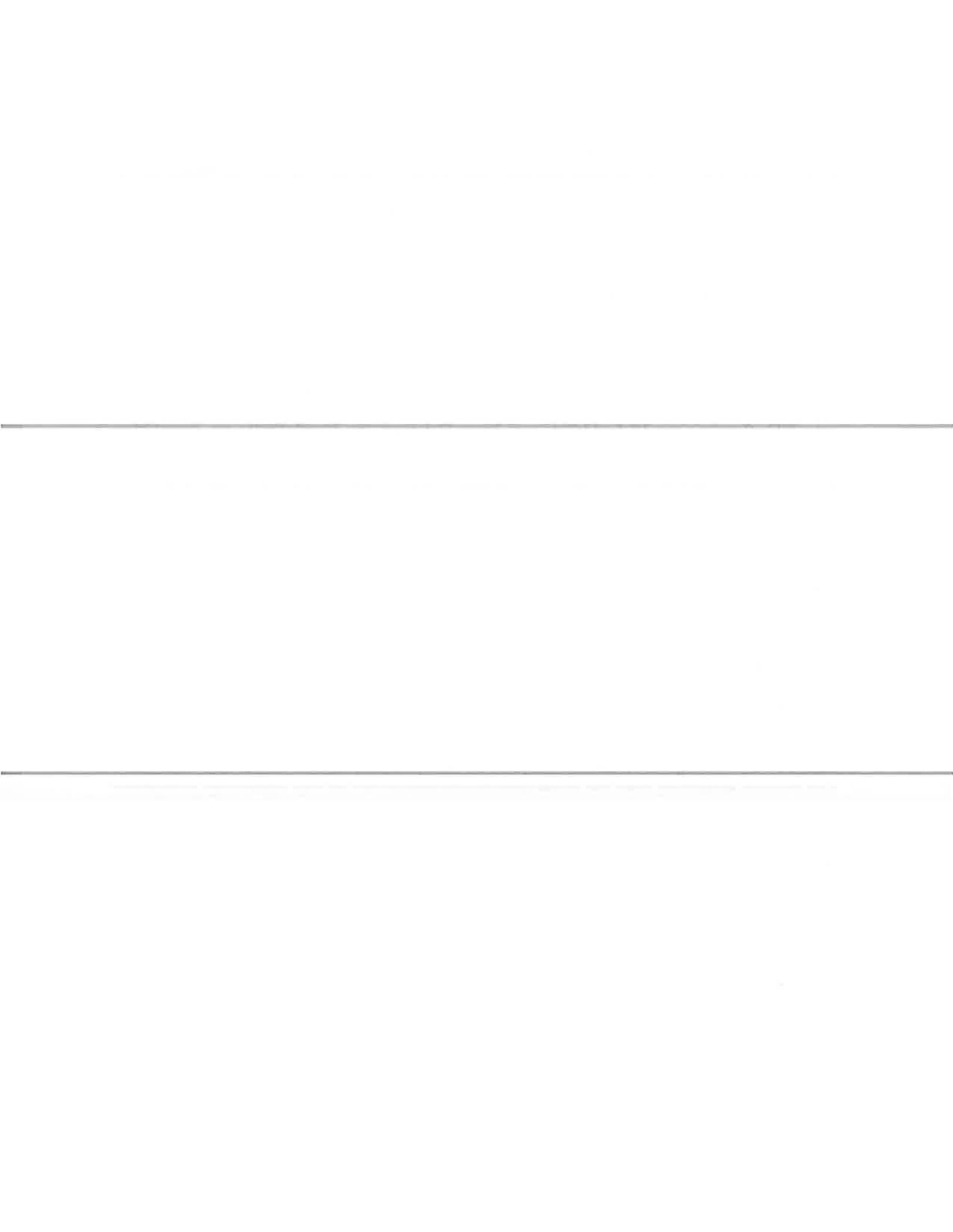
Michael Milch asked about a local advisory board within the City of Gladstone. This was the one issue that was given exclusively to the Gladstone task force because Gladstone is the one city involved that might want to have something at the local level to replace our library advisory board when it goes out of business. This would be an advisory board that would communicate directly with the City Council and would have a broader scope – a community services advisory board. Ms. Olson is excited about the possibility of having this type of advisory board. Councilor Reisner said there are a lot of people wanting to be involved in the new library so he's sure the City can put something together. Michael Milch said he would be happy to draft something based on the current board provisions so they could review it at a future meeting and if there is a consensus, they could pass it along to the task force. Everyone agreed.

*Natalie Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Bryce Colson. Motion passed unanimously.*

#### **Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Next regular meeting scheduled for September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.



## **GLADSTONE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES of September 1, 2020**

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM (Via Zoom)

### **PRESENT:**

Chair Gary Bokowski, Natalie Smith, Michael Milch, Dr. Bryce Colson, Libby Spencer

### **ABSENT:**

Nancy Eichsteadt

Also Present: Mitzi Olson, Gladstone/Oak Lodge Library Director; Neal Reisner, City Council Liaison; Jacque Betz, City Administrator; Kathryn Krygier, Project Manager; Tammy Stempel, Mayor

---

### **Call to Order/Self-Introductions**

#### **Approval of August 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes:**

Chair Bokowski said in the Round Table discussion section the notes say what was actually said; that the Gladstone Library Board will be dissolved by December 1, 2020, but the date is actually November 14<sup>th</sup>.

*Libby Spencer made a motion to approve the August 4, 2020 meeting minutes. Michael Milch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Director's Report:**

Ms. Olson said they are continuing to offer the no contact holds pick-ups at both locations. They finally got the hotspots and laptops in and they are very popular. They are working on a new project – to work with the teachers/schools in both service areas to provide cards for elementary school aged children so they can use the online resources in particular. The problem right now is they can't come into a library to get a card and they are also having issues with e-cards. They continue to offer the YouTube story times and gardening classes via Zoom.

Chair Bokowski asked if library fines are going to start to accrue starting next Monday – Ms. Olson said she believes that has been extended through the end of the year, but she needs to confirm that.

Ms. Olson said they presented the draft bylaws that came out of the subcommittee to the County Council. At the last Gladstone Library Board meeting they reviewed the bylaws and there was a tie vote as to whether to recommend adopting them. At the Oak Lodge Library Board meeting they voted unanimously to recommend adopting them. The next step is scheduling a policy session with the Board of County Commissioners where they'll have the opportunity to review and potentially adopt those bylaws.

#### **City Council:**

Councilor Reisner said he appreciates the dedicated work done by Mitzi, Laura, and Kathryn to bring the two libraries together. He knows that Mitzi has gathered input from several organizations regarding the bylaws. He said that it doesn't have to mean everyone needs to agree with or approve all the bylaws. He agrees with 90 to 95% of them. The only area he doesn't agree with is the library advisory board membership. He took what he heard from last week's meeting, along with discussions last week with other Gladstone library lovers and submitted a proposal to the Council. The proposal was to honorably ask BCC to consider a Clackamas County Library Advisory Board with seven members: three from Oak Lodge, three from the City of Gladstone, and one from the unincorporated Gladstone service area. Though he appreciates input from all, he does not appreciate Mr. Milch's continued name calling of him and misinformation spouts, which started back when he was on the City Council. He has not said anything

earlier because he felt that Mr. Milch was new to the Council. In an email from yesterday he called Councilor Reisner an obstructionist. Councilor Reisner said he was offering a legitimate proposal to change the proposed bylaws after the settlement had been agreed to and signed, obstructing the building of a new City library. The outcome of these bylaws is not going to change the fact that Gladstone is going to get a new library built by the County. He is not obstructing anything. He said that Mr. Milch claims that he ham fisted the effort to undermine the work of the Library Director and the Library Boards of Gladstone and Oak Lodge. He said his proposal was well written - not informal, lacking dexterity or elegance. He said if anyone is being ham fisted it's Mr. Milch for calling him names and providing this information in his email. Mr. Milch also said that Councilor Reisner is incapable of thinking beyond the boundaries of his own city. Councilor Reisner said he is thinking of the citizens of Gladstone when he agreed to the settlement agreement with the County because he believes this is the best means to get a new library built in Gladstone. He is surprised that he needs to remind Mr. Milch that he does not represent the citizens of Oak Grove or Jennings Lodge – he represents the citizens of Gladstone so he will not agree to a document, in part, which he believes is not in the best interest of the citizens of Gladstone. He submitted a proposal to the Council that they ask the Board of County Commissioners to modify the bylaws at next Tuesday's meeting. He said the meeting is open to the public so anyone who has comments or concerns they will have an opportunity to express them. He said he holds Ms. Olson in the highest esteem as she has done a fantastic job in bringing the two libraries together. He said this information will be in the Council packet and they will discuss it next week.

Ms. Olson said she appreciated the things he just said and the sentiment behind them, but she wanted to point out that she did not just come up with the bylaws and present them. She worked with citizens and library board members from both library boards to come up with a draft. The IGA gave them some guidelines but the details of the bylaws came from the citizens and board members. Councilor Reisner said he appreciated the clarification.

Chair Bokowski said he didn't feel that Mr. Milch was calling names, but was reacting to a proposal that they had discussed at length during meetings and had basically rejected that in favor of the proposal that Ms. Olson included in the bylaws – and there were good reasons why they didn't go with Councilor Reisner's suggestions. He feels that Ms. Olson presented very thorough rationale in the data she presented at the special Library Board meeting in terms of proportionality, population, and financial contribution. He said it worked out very nicely with a five-member board as opposed to a seven-member board.

---

#### **Library Foundation:**

Ms. Olson said they haven't had a meeting yet. It is scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> because of the Labor Day holiday. They do plan on having a pop-up sale on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, from 11 to 4 P.M. It will be held in the library parking lot.

#### **LDAC:**

Natalie Smith said the meetings have been postponed indefinitely.

#### **Gladstone Library Task Force:**

Natalie Smith said there is another meeting tomorrow. At the last meeting they went over the three alternatives and tomorrow they plan to vote on the preferred alternative. She said the majority of citizens felt more comfortable with the quarter entry that the Library Task Force had already felt would be the right fit for the new library. Ms. Krygier said that next is phase four, which is essentially some design refinement and also documentation of all the technical information and public engagement and when that's complete in late October the task force will go to the board with their recommendation.

### **Concord Property/Library Planning Task Force:**

Chair Bokowski said it's pretty much parallel to what the Gladstone Task Force did in terms of reviewing the public outreach results. Everybody was a little sorry that there wasn't a larger response. The most popular option was the attachment of a separate library building to the old Concord School. He said he spoke with the project geologist who was doing some seismic testing/trenches/cone tests and he is looking forward to seeing the report. They also did some drilling and took core samples from the street in front of the new City Hall building.

### **Sharing Session:**

Michael Milch said they had talked about what would the successor advisory board be once the Gladstone Library Advisory Board is no longer in existence, so he drafted a description of a board that would enable at the local level for Gladstone community members to be involved and for the library to be involved in providing access to the community. He felt that with the BCC overseeing the combined libraries at a County level there was still a need for something at the local level that would provide a linkage between library staff and community, between community organizations and the library, and something that would emphasize the role that the library plays in providing local access or community members to all the resources that exist in the community. He sent the document out for review and he hopes that members of the Library Board who also serve on the task force could take it there because they are the ones who will make the recommendation on the successor to the Gladstone Library Board. He believes the task force is who is charged with developing this. Their focus has been primarily on facilities so far. He said this committee would not replace the Library Board nor duplicate any of the functions of the Library Board of Directors, but it would help serve and link the community and community organizations to work in partnership with the library at the local level in case the staff or board members were not familiar with the needs of Gladstone. It would report to the City Council.

Ms. Olson said she likes the idea of the community helping them with their job of being relevant to the community and with the involvement of the other stakeholders in the community, such as the food bank and school representatives, she is excited about that opportunity.

Ms. Betz said the City Council will still really not have any authority to do anything with the recommendations from this committee since the County will be overseeing the library. She thinks that someone needs to make a proposal to the City Council if they want them to create an ad hoc committee.

Michael Milch said that last month the Planning Commission had to deal with a proposed code amendment that would allow the new library to be constructed at the site of the city hall without requiring any additional off-street parking. The change was adopted by City Council so the plans can continue without the designers needing to try to put parking on the property itself, but at some point a decision needs to be made about where parking facilities will be for the new library. He is hoping that before this board is dissolved they can provide some input to the City on recommendations for parking. He went over some options. Chair Bokowski said they need to consider book drop-off. There was further discussion regarding the parking situation.

Michael Milch apologized to Councilor Reisner for his choice of words in his letter to Ms. Betz. His reference to "obstructionist politicians" really referenced someone who is no longer on the Council. He said Councilor Reisner has been a supportive library liaison member through the years and he appreciates his service. Councilor Reisner accepted his apology.

### **Public Comments:**

Andrew Labonte, Chair for the Traffic Safety Advisory Board, said there is support for diagonal parking, especially on the north side of Portland Avenue. He asked if that is being considered or if they're leaving that more to the City to hash out those plans. Michael Milch went over some history regarding diagonal

parking – he said now the Planning Commission and the City are going to have to look at that all over again. Mr. Labonte said his concern is pedestrian safety and people cutting across at Dartmouth. He said the Board would like to keep up with the parking scheme and pedestrian plans for that area.

**Adjourn:**

*Natalie Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Michael Milch. Motion passed unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:34 P.M.

Next regular meeting scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

---

---