

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
LIBRARY CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Chairman—Chad Scott (MBR 7)

Vice Chair—Michelle Dempsey (MBR 2)

MBR1—Nancy Bertels

MBR3—Aaron Malone

MBR4—Dorothy Denison

MBR5—Erik Palin

MBR6—Susan Hillman

ALT1— Camilla (Nan) Potts

ALT2— Sally Pollen



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS AND LIVE STREAMED**  
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/11289539>  
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

**REGULAR MEETING**

**5:00 PM**

**AUGUST 12, 2024**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Called to order at 5:00 pm

**II. ROLL CALL**

A. Present – Chad Scott, Michelle Dempsey, Nancy Bertels, Aaron Malone, Dorothy Denison, Susan Hillman, Sally Pollen (voting alternate)

B. Absent – Erik Palin, Camilla Potts

**III. AGENDA APPROVAL**

A. Agenda approved unanimously.

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

A. Mr. Malone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING**

A. JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 – Ms. Denison moved to approve minutes, unanimous consent.

## VI. STAFF REPORTS

### A. Hugh Leslie – Recreation & Library Services Manager

1. Mr. Leslie explained that he and Sarah Thomas will collect the score cards after the meeting to present to the Community Development Director. Introduced Sarah Thomas, Nick Spiropoulos and Erin Dooling as staff present at the meeting. Mr. Leslie stated 2 of the 4 books from the reconsideration list are available today, Damsel and Red Hood, if they decide to review one of those. If not, time to acquire the title they choose would be necessary.

## VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – (2 Minutes Per Person)

- A. Mary Robinson – Ms. Robinson hoped the committee has read the book, spoke to the difference of misinformation vs disinformation.
- B. Patricia Fisher – Ms. Fisher wanted to also make sure that each of the committee members have read the book before voting.
- C. Jackie Goforth – Ms. Goforth identified herself as the challenger of the book that committee is voting on this meeting. Explained why she submitted the book for reconsideration.
- D. Karen Lewis – Ms. Lewis thanked the committee for their acceptance of the task at hand.
- E. Linda Spohm – Ms. Spohm explained why she believes the material in the book is dangerous for youth.
- F. Mary Ravetta – Ms. Ravetta thanked the committee for being willing to read the material in the challenged books. Explained why she believed this material is harmful.
- G. Mark Spohm – Mr. Spohm thanked the committee for their acceptance of the task at hand.

## VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### A. Materials Submitted for Reconsideration

1. Identical; Ellen Hopkins ISBN 978-1416950059
  - 2 votes to reshelve to the adult section (Bertels, Denison)
  - 5 votes to remove the book from the libraries (Scott, Dempsey, Hillman, Malone, Pollen)

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Materials Submitted for Reconsideration

1. Red Hood; Elana K. Arnold ISBN 978-0062742353
  - Ms. Hillman moved to review Red Hood, unanimous consent.
2. Damsel; Elana K. Arnold ISBN 978-0-06-274232-2
3. Forever; Judy Blume ISBN 978-1-4814-1442-5
4. The Haters; Jesse Andrews ISBN 978-1-4197-2018-9
  - All other titles are postponed to the next meeting, unanimous consent.

### B. Decide if there should be limits imposed on the debate of questioned items during the meeting.

1. No discussion.

X. NEXT MEETING

- A. September 9, 2024 – Ms. Denison moved to accept meeting date, unanimous consent.
- B. November was cancelled due to a scheduling conflict; other meetings are planned for second Mondays of each month going forward.

XI. MEMBERS, STAFF COMMENTS

- A. Mr. Leslie let the committee know we will collect the copies of Identical that were provided and score cards at the end of the meeting.
- B. Ms. Pollen was appreciative for being able to be involved in this process.
- C. Mr. Scott thanked everyone for their involvement. Reiterated that this committee is not a decision-making body, just advisory.
- D. Ms. Dempsey thanked everyone for the opportunity to participate.
- E. Ms. Denison asked for state law clarification.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Adjourned 5:59 pm

X   
Chad Scott - Chair

Date: 10-19-24

ATTEST:

X   
Sarah Thomas - Staff Support

Date: 10/14/24