3. Invest in collaborative efforts with community organizations.

BCPL continues to conduct interdepartmental programming as well as grow other collaborations within the community.

Interdepartmental programs are planned with other City of Bay City departments, such as the Police Department, Airport, Parks and Recreation, throughout the year. Events include Santa's Fly-in Storytime at Bay City Regional Airport; hosting National Night Out and Blue Santa Storytime; and partnering on the Trail of Tales story walk located along the walking trail at Riverside Park.

This past year, the library began accepting community service volunteers on a regular basis. There were over 500 of service provided from high school students and court-ordered volunteers.

Over summer, the Library entered into interlocal agreements with two of the five school districts in the County to provide Student Library Cards. Over 4,000 students obtained library cards through this joint program.
The interlocal will allow Bay City ISD to facilitate the registration of student library cards through their online registration process. Parents will have the opportunity to opt-in to the program.

Denbow added that she spent time researching the idea for many years. “I’ve been meeting virtually with Austin Public Library who has already implemented a program like this,” she explained. “They’ve graciously shared their work with us and we used it to make a program to fit our needs.”

Denbow said that the cards would be tied to the student’s ID number and data will be shared between BCPL and BCISD.

“BCPL offers student library cards to provide students easy access to the library’s materials and services free of charge,” she added.

“The data being provided by BCISD pursuant to this agreement consists of school name, grade level, the name of the parent or legal guardian providing the consent, name of the student, address of the student, phone number of student, date of birth of student, school identification number, and parent email.”

The interlocal agreement will continue through June 1, 2023. Also, council unanimously approved the fiscal year 2023 City Council goals without amendments in regards to the following areas: governance, public safety, infrastructure, livability & quality of life, and community & economic development.

“This plan is a culmination of all the things we’ve talked about in the last two meetings,” said City Manager Shawn Buskirt. “We’re focusing on safety and public service. The council is committed to fostering future economic growth by building economic partnerships, continually improving infrastructure, expanding its tax base and creating a culture which retains as well as attracts new business and investments.”

“The council will work to deliver quality services in a healthy and safe environment by consolidating our assets and resources and empowering our employees while encouraging volunteer service involvement,” she said.

“We will enhance our tourism opportunities by promoting our city. We will commit our resources, talents, and energy to achieve economic wellbeing and improve the quality of life for our citizens.”

Other council actions included approving:

- Relocation of the Art League from 1915 5th Street to 2001 5th Street pending lease approval.
- Ratifying the amended city “Vision” statement.
- Ratifying the amended city “Mission” statement.
- Appointing council member liaison to different city departments.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Bay City ISD and Palacios ISD Parents
Say YES to your child receiving a free
Student Library Card.

FREE access to online resources - electronic books, tutoring, databases, language learning tools, and so much more!

PLUS
the card can be used to check out items, and use computers at the Bay City Public Library.

www.baycitytxlib.org