

Minutes of the Muscogee County Library Board
Thursday, March 25, 2021 – 1:00 pm
Via GoToMeeting

In Attendance:

Donovan Granville, Acting Chair
Cyndy Cerbin
Darcy Brito
Denise Eckley
David Fox
Grace Nagal
Reggie Lewis
LaRae Dixon Moore
Beth Schwartz
Marion Scott
Sebastian Cahill

Also in Attendance:

Alan Harkness, Director, CVL
Felecia Malave, Admin Assis.
Brittany Fischbach, HR Clerk
Gabriel Lundeen, Deputy Director
Katie Burnett – CPL Branch Manager
Larua Ann Mann – Muscogee County
Library Foundation Director
Tammy Battley – Operations
Coordinator
Tracie Price – HR & Finance
Coordinator
Tiffany Wilson – Marketing Director

Acting Chair Donovan Granville called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm.

Acting Chair Granville asked for a motion to approve the minutes from both the January 28, 2021 and February 25, 2021 meetings. David Fox moved to approve the minutes as presented. LaRae Dixon Moore seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Friends of the Library – Director Harkness reported the Friends will have a sidewalk book sale in April.

Library Foundation – Laura Ann Mann reported the Foundation Trustees are working to fill 2-3 seats of the board of trustees and will be voting in May on new members. The Development committee is working on Wine, Women and Shoes 2021 and already beginning to plan the Foundation Gala for 2022. There is a wide range of authors being considered for the Gala. The Foundation is also looking at partnering with other community organization or schools to possibly bring more authors to town.

Wine, Women and Shoes is planned for October 3rd and is planning to be outside of CPL.

The Foundation is expecting funding to remain the same for the Library next year (About \$800,000).

Treasurer's Report – Tracie Price reported included in the packet is a corrected version of the January (Period 7) Financial Reports with a line being fixed; the \$1,500 should have been from Marion County, not Stewart County.

In Period 8, the system is on track with revenue, with an increase since allowing people to start printing and copying again. Expenses – CVL is either on track or slightly behind. The school district provided \$25,000 to offset PPE cost.

Travel, Dues and Fees are still low as staff are not traveling. Many are still attending webinars but with much less cost associated.

Director's Report – Director Alan Harkness reported the Friends Book Sale is scheduled for April 17th. The system is looking at limited outdoor programming beginning in April, and will provide more information as it becomes available. CVL moved to the first part of Phase 3B, with the biggest difference being the elimination of the book quarantine.

The library is looking at a new e-resource with the school district, called Sora.

The building committee will hold Architect interviews on Wednesday, April 14th at CPL for the South Expansion Project.

MCSD is doing a "Reimagined Summer program" to help kids get caught up due to COVID, this program is expected to last several years. CVL is looking at how to get the library involved.

The state library system has received CARES act money, hopefully CVL will see some.

Branch Report – Deputy Director Gabriel Lundeen says customers are excited to come back into the building and staff are excited to have them back. Gabriel has multi-colored hair due to a competition between North Columbus Public Library and Columbus Public Library to see who had the highest circulation.

Customers are saying the library is being used to help with "right now needs".

Branches are beginning to call people with long-term overdues to try and get them to bring their materials back prior to when lost item billing begins again.

New Business:

Finance Committee:

- Approve Preliminary Budget for FY'22 – Motion from the Committee to approve the Preliminary Budget. Reggie Lewis seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Operations Committee:

- Approve changes to Financial Services Specialist Job Description – motion from the Committee to approve the changes, Denise Eckley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approve closure for Wine, Women and Shoes if needed – Motion from the Committee to approve the closure if needed, Sebastian Cahill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Phase 3B Changes – The changes include adding Sunday hours to CPL, tables and chairs, and study rooms for the public. Beth Schwartz moved to approve the changes, Denise Eckley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Report – Donovan Granville said the library looks good with all the changes going on. He also praised the staff and board for how they have all handled moving forward while keeping safety of everyone a priority.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 1:54 pm. 1