

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 - 6:00 pm
Cusseta-Chattahoochee Public Library

In attendance:

Chair Laura Lee Bernstein, Tanya Jones, Amanda Hollomon, Andrew Thomas,
Linda Lou Beck, Elayne McGlaun

Also, staff members:

Manager Pam Burgamy, Director Alan Harkness

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bernstein at 6:03 pm.

Approval of the Minutes: Chair Bernstein asked for a motion to approve the minutes from April 19, 2022. Beck made the motion. Jones seconded.

Unanimously approved by Bernstein, Jones, Hollomon, Beck and McGlaun. (Thomas arrived after this motion was made.)

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Addison sent the Treasurer's report in his absence. Chair Bernstein asked a question about the financial information being requested by the CVL Finance Department. Director Alan explained that he asked the head of the Finance Department to establish some best practices and internal controls for the CVL's branches finances.

Director's Report: Director Alan Harkness presented the director's report. There is almost \$40,000 dollars left of state money that needs to be spent on the newly renovated Cusseta-Chattahoochee Public Library before 2024. Some of the work that will be performed with these funds include; extra electrical work that is needed, murals, signage and the purchase of some equipment. Certain continuing costs items were not approved to be paid for with state funds so Director Harkness had those items folded into the CVL budget.

Director Harkness then presented the plans and photos for the renovation of the South Columbus Branch in Muscogee County. He stated that due to the rising costs of construction in the past year the projected estimate of cost has gone from 4.3 million dollars to 9.79 million dollars. It has more than doubled. This means that Director Harkness will need to ask for more money from the state, the Foundation will be exhausting their reserves and the CVL libraries will be exhausting their reserves as well in order to complete this renovation. South Columbus deserves and needs this branch as it is the smallest branch in the system and one of the most used. Director Harkness invited everyone to the

groundbreaking of the South Columbus Branch renovation on November 15th, at 4:30 PM.

Director Harkness informed the board that the CVL is down three key administrative positions. The South Columbus Branch Manager position that was vacated by Natalie Couch is being interviewed for this Friday. Tammy Battley, the Operations Coordinator has accepted a position with Enrichment Services. Her last day is the 20th. This position is now being advertised. Wanda Edwards, the Adult Services Coordinator for the CVL, is retiring after 28 years of service in November.

Director Alan has facilitated including the Chattahoochee County School District in the Laws of Life Essay contest that is run by the Rotary Club of Columbus every year. This will be their first year participating.

Local Library Report: Manger Burgamy gave the local library report. Income and patronage have increased since the opening of the newly renovated CCPL as well as library card holders. Kelly has started a homeschool group that meets every other Thursday called Homeschool Happenings. Presently 5 families attend. This is new as before COVID and in the old building, there were no homeschool groups at the library.

Another new program is STEAM Punks that takes place one Saturday a month. The field trips with the Pre-K have started again every other Friday and in November the CCPL will have the first Literacy Bell Ring and Celebration with the kindergarteners who have learned to read since before COVID-19 hit. Flyers have been sent out to the schools to advertise the teen programs on Tuesdays. The adult programs are just as strongly attended as ever. One Saturday a month the library hosts Cinema Saturday with a movie. This month Cinema Saturday will take place on the 29th. On the 31st the CCPL will be having a Pumpkin Party. There is also an AARP Driving Class taking place in November 5th.

Unfinished Business: there was none.

New Business

Multi-Purpose Usage Room Fees for After Hours

After much discussion Chair Bernstein asked for a motion to add **Approve the Library Manger to have discretionary control over fees associated with multi-purpose usage of rooms after hours** to the agenda. Beck made the motion. Jones

seconded. Unanimously approved by Bernstein, Jones, Hollomon, Thomas, Beck and McGlaun. Chair Bernstein then asked for a motion to **approve the Library Manger to have discretionary control over fees associated with multi-purpose usage of rooms after hours.** Thomas made the motion. Beck seconded. Unanimously approved by Bernstein, Jones, Hollomon, Thomas, Beck and McGlaun.

Chair Bernstein asked for a motion to **approve the multi-Purpose usage room fee of \$50 per hour for after-hours usage with the condition that this item can be revisited at a later date based on feedback from the Library Manger.** Beck made the motion. Jones seconded. Unanimously approved by Bernstein, Jones, Hollomon, Thomas, Beck and McGlaun.

Chair's Report: There was none.

Board of Education: There was none.

Next meeting date: January 17, 2023 at 6pm.