

Minutes of the Muscogee County Library Board
Thursday, June 24, 2021 – 1:00pm
Via GoToMeeting

In Attendance:

Donovan Granville, Chair
LaRae Dixon Moore, Vice Chair
Sebastian Cahill, Treasurer
Marion Scott
Tavanasha Shepard
Darcy Brito
Denise Eckley
Beth Schwartz
Reggie Lewis
Cynthia Cerbin

Also in Attendance:

Alan Harkness, CVL Director
Gabriel Lundeen, CVL Deputy Director
Tracie Price, CVL Finance/HR Coordinator
Katie Burnett, CVL Branch Manager
Amber Brookins, CVL Materials/Statistics Coordinator
Tammy Battley, CVL Operations Coordinator
Brittany Fischbach, CVL Finance/HR Clerk
Laura Ann Mann – Muscogee County Library Foundation Director
Lorrie Watt – Muscogee County School District Representative

Chair, Donovan Granville called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.

Chair Granville asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 22, 2021 meeting. Treasurer, Sebastian Cahill moved to approve the minutes. Denise Eckley seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

No public comment.

Friends of the Library: On behalf of the Friends of the Library, CVL Director, Alan Harkness reported that they had a successful book sale. Director Harkness also informed the board that they are trying to figure out how to reopen the bookstore.

Muscogee County Library Foundation: Laura Ann Mann reported that they have new board members joining soon. Mann stated that the Library Foundation is gearing up for Wine, Women, and Shoes on Sunday, October 3, 2021. Mann also stated that they are putting in offer to have Leisa Windgate come to Gala on January 20, 2022 and January 21, 2022.

Treasurer's report: CVL Finance/HR Coordinator, Tracie Price reported that revenues are trending high and are continuing to do so. Price reported that all other income is on track. Price also reported that travel costs remain low and mentioned that the library has been fully reimbursed from the Muscogee

County School District for all of the COVID-19 PPE supplies. Price reported that all other expenditures are trending as expected.

Director's report: CVL Director, Harkness informed the board that this will most likely be the last virtual meeting due to the state of emergency ending. Director Harkness welcomed new board member, Tavanisha Shepard. Also, Harkness welcomed Lorrie Watt, Muscogee County School District representative. Harkness reported that the CVL Volunteer Coordinator is resigning and transferring to the Muscogee County Public Education Center. The library will be looking for a new candidate to fill her shoes. Harkness reported that the library's Golden Ticket Tuesday was a success and that the summer reading program will continue until the end of July. Also, Harkness stated that there has been some indoor programming and that the library is planning for all indoor programming by the fall. Harkness informed the board that the groundbreaking for the Cusseta Chattahoochee Public Library is next week. Harkness reported that foot traffic at the library has been slowly increasing. Harkness reported that they had their first face to face meeting with Design Minds for the exhibit at Mildred L. Terry Public Library. Harkness also reported that the roof and A/C work will start soon at the North Columbus Public Library. Harkness stated that they have been starting to talk about putting lockers outside of the branches and are expecting that begin by 2023. Harkness mentioned that Juneteenth is now a federal holiday and we will see how Muscogee County School District will handle determining whether the library will be closed or not on that day.

Branch report: CVL Deputy Director, Gabriel Lundeen reported that the summer reading program is continuing and that Golden Ticket Tuesday led a lot people to return to the library. Lundeen stated that they are still creating awareness of the library being open. Lundeen reported that guests are enjoying the programs and that attendance of programs is increasing. Lundeen mentioned that they had 25 families attend a Story Time, similar to pre-pandemic times. Lundeen informed the board that other branches are phasing in indoor programming as well. Lundeen reported that there has been a lot of outreach lately. Lundeen mentioned that the Columbus Public Library's Genealogy Department is now open. Lundeen stated that regulars are coming back and he is excited to see more people in the branches.

No unfinished business.

New business:

- Chair Granville asked for a motion to approve the final budget. Denise Eckley moved to approve the budget. Vice Chair, LaRae Dixon Moore seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
- Motion from the Operations Committee to approve changes to the Bookmobile Specialist job description. Beth Schwartz seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
- Chair Granville asked for a motion to approve the move to phase 4b. Cynthia Cerbin moved to approve the motion. Eckley seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Chair's report: Chair Granville stated that the library board appreciates the commitment of public service staff and stated that libraries are the anchor in any successful community.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 22, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm.