

Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Regional Board Meeting
July 15, 2021 – 5:30pm
Marion County Public Library

In attendance:

Tricia Henson

Grace Nagel

Todd Robinson

Laura Lee Bernstein (on behalf of Interim CCLB Chair Pat Gardner)

Also in Attendance:

Alan Harkness, CVL Director

Shaun Jones, CC Consolidated Government employee

Chair, Tricia Henson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

Chair Henson asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Todd Robinson moved to approve the minutes. Grace Nagel seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

No public comment

Director, Alan Harkness gave the Treasurer's report, explaining that all funding agencies had paid through the end of the fiscal year.

Director Harkness reported that the branches are open, and to most services. The County Branches were still at diminished hours, but these would return in the fall in time for school to be in session. Also, the Columbus Public Library was still open only two nights a week, but that they would return to full operating hours next month.

Harkness reported that our numbers are looking good, and all measures are up: foot traffic, limited programs, summer reading stats, and circulation. Some numbers will return when the meeting rooms are in use again, but bookings for September have started now.

Harkness mentioned the groundbreaking for Cusseta on 7/1, and the design development for the South Branch was in progress. He is trying to raise more private funds for that location's overall budget. He also mentioned that the state Capital Outlay Grant for construction for \$2M was approved by the General Assembly as was the Maintenance Renovation & Repair grant for the North Branch, at \$110,000, for their new roof and a/c project.

Harkness mentioned a few exhibits that were forthcoming: The 9/11 Exhibit in September, the Smithsonian Exhibit on bias next summer, and the Holocaust exhibit in two years. All of these exhibits will give us opportunity for wrap-around programming to develop in-house. Additionally, the StoryCorps team is coming to Columbus at the Columbus and Mildred Terry Libraries next week.

Finally, Lisa Wingate has been announced as the author that the Library Foundation has selected for their annual gala, which will be in person again this year.

No unfinished business

New Business

i. Final Budget FY'22

Harkness presented the final version of the CVL budget for FY'22, and entertained a couple of questions. Motion to approve by Todd Robinson, and seconded by Grace Nagel. Unanimous vote by Robinson, Nagel, Bernstein and Henson.

ii. Holiday Closures

Harkness presented the holidays and closures, explaining how the Muscogee County School District handles holidays. Of particular note was how CVL might handle Juneteenth, now that it was considered a national holiday. CVL Staff will make a recommendation, and we will bring any changes back to the board as needed. Motion to approve by Todd Robinson, and seconded by Grace Nagel. Unanimous vote by Robinson, Nagel, Bernstein and Henson.

iii. Circulation Policy

Harkness explained the substantive differences with the Circulation policy, indicating that it was primarily an attempt to reduce and consolidate. Motion to approve by Todd Robinson, and seconded by Grace Nagel. Unanimous vote by Robinson, Nagel, Bernstein and Henson.

iv. Election of Treasurer

Grace Nagel was nominated as treasurer by Todd Robinson, and there were no other nominations from the floor. Seconded by Laura Lee Bernstein. Unanimous vote by Robinson, Nagel, Bernstein and Henson.

County Library Trustee Report

i. Cusseta-Chattahoochee County - Bernstein reiterated the ground breaking and moving forward with construction

ii. Marion County – Henson mentioned their new indoor bookdrop and the good works by Manager Kim Scott. Desire to restore pre-covid operating hours when school starts again was mentioned.

iii. Muscogee County – No other comments

iv. Stewart County – in absence of a Stewart representative, Harkness mentioned the painting work that has been completed on Parks' bathrooms and bookdrop.

Next Meeting – October 21, 2021 at the Columbus Public Library

Meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm.