

Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Regional Board Meeting
July 27, 2023 – 5:30pm
Columbus Public Library

In attendance:

Amanda Hollomon, Chair
Jennifer Boling, Secretary
Darcy Brito
Todd Robinson

Staff in Attendance:

Alan Harkness, Director
Lizette Cruz, Administrative Specialist.

- I. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order at 5:39pm.
- II. **Approval of the April 20, 2023, minutes** – Motion to approve by Robinson, seconded by Boling. Unanimous approval by Hollomon, Boling, Brito, and Robinson.
- III. Public Comment – There was none
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Director Harkness presented the treasurer's report.
- V. Director's Report – Director Harkness presented the director's report.

Director Harkness finished his tenth year as the director of CVL. He thanked everyone who participated in his annual review and offered to send anyone interested a copy of the survey done by the county board members for their review. Brito mentioned all of the highlights that Director Harkness accomplished with his CVL Team this year, to include the completion of the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Public Library, breaking ground on the renovation of the South Columbus Public Library, the transition of First Readers of Muscogee County to the Chattahoochee Valley Imagination Library under the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, and the return of the Columbus Children's Book Festival to pre-pandemic attendance.

The exhibit "Americans and the Holocaust" from the National Holocaust Museum (one of 50 stops, the only one in the state Georgia) is now on Display in the Grand Reading Room on the second floor along with items from the Columbus Museum and the Georgia Holocaust museum. It will be on display through August 18th.

Director Harkness informed the board of a change the Muscogee County District made in paying non-exempt employees. They changed monthly pay to bi-weekly pay. Unfortunately, in the transition they did not pay any of the part time staff from the CVL. This has caused issues for the part time staff. CVL's Financial Team and Director Harkness have been going back and forth with MCSD to make sure this

issue is corrected and hopefully the part time staff should receive the last of the back pay owed by Monday.

The Chattahoochee Valley Imagination Library has fully transitioned from Ferst Readers and is now under the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Registrations opened July 8 and there are now almost at 700 kids (not being presently served under Ferst as those children will continue to receive Ferst books until December) registered without hardly any media promotion. The Community Foundation is acting as the financial agent for the CVIL.

The South Branch has steel going up, and there are some extra costs that will need to be incurred for things that were unforeseen, but construction is moving forward. As it looks now the opening might happen in May/June of 2024.

Half of the murals at the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Public Library are finished. They look beautiful. Pictures of the murals can be found on the Cusseta - Chattahoochee Facebook page.

VI. Unfinished Business – there was none

VII. New Business

- i. **Motion to add item to the agenda: Vote to approve the closure of the CVL Library System to the public on October 23rd for system transition from Polaris to The Library Corporation and for staff training.**

Motion to add by Hollomon, seconded by Brito. Unanimous approval by Hollomon, Boling, Brito, and Robinson.

- ii. **Vote to approve the closure of the CVL Library System to the public on October 23rd for system transition from Polaris to The Library Corporation and for staff training.**

Motion by Brito, seconded by Robinson. Unanimous approval by Hollomon, Boling, Brito, and Robinson.

- iii. **Vote on Final Budget for FY24**

Brito made a motion to approve the Final Budget for FY24. Robinson seconded the motion. Unanimous approval by Hollomon, Boling, Brito, and Robinson.

- iv. **Approve Meeting Room Use Policy (updated 7/3/2023)**

Motion to approve by Robinson, seconded by Brito. Unanimous approval by Hollomon, Boling, Brito, and Robinson.

- v. **Approve Director's Salary**

Motion to approve by Brito, seconded by Robinson. Unanimous approval by Hollomon, Boling, Brito, and Robinson.

- VIII. Next meeting is scheduled for October 19th at 5:30 PM. Location: Columbus Public Library.
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

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