

Meeting of the Muscogee County Library Board
February 10, 2025 – 11:00 am
Columbus Public Library, Synovus Rooms A & B

Members in Attendance:

Darcy Brito, Chair	SirMichael Jones
Susan Berry	Dahmon King
David Fox	Reggie Lewis (came in at meeting end) [OOB]
Judy Barnett	Mary Angela Stone McMurphy
Sharon Jamison	Jennifer St, John
Shannon Reynolds	

Also, in Attendance:

Alan Harkness, Director, CVL (Chattahoochee Valley Libraries)
Katie Burnett, Assist. Director of Public Services, CVL
Tracie Price, Assist. Director of Business Services, CVL
Amber Brookins, Materials & Statistics Coordinator, CVL
Laura Ann Mann, Executive Director, MCLF
Marissa Brookins, Media Content Specialist, MCSD, Ex-Officio
Lizette Cruz, Administrative Specialist, CVL

- I. Call to Order – Chair Brito called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.
- II. **Approval of the December 9, 2024, minutes.**
Chair Brito asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2024, meeting. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by McMurphy. The motion was approved unanimously by Brito, Barnett, Berry, Fox, Jamison, Jones, King, McMurphy, Reynolds, and St. John.
- III. New Member Welcome. Chair Brito welcomed the new members to the board, David Fox, Sharon Jamison, and Shannon Reynolds. She asked each one to address the board and tell everyone a little about themselves.
- IV. Public Comment – There was none
- V. Muscogee County Library Foundation
Laura Ann Mann gave the MCLF update. January 23rd MCLF hosted Novel Notions with NY Times bestselling author Fiona Davis. Despite the snow and ice, the event had 57 people in attendance. She was also the featured guest author at the Annual MCLF Gala for donors. Everyone who brought tickets was able to attend except for two who could not get out of their homes due to the snow and ice, for a total of 99 attendees. The MCLF Board meets this week to begin to plan the next fundraising events for 2025.
- VI. Treasurer's Report
Assist. Director Price covered the FY25 Period 6 financials which ended December 31, 2024. There were no questions.
- VII. Director's Report
Director Harkness went over several CVL statistics with the board including the growth of card ownership in the last four years, and the rate of computer, building use, internet use, digital and physical circulation over the same time period. Director Harkness has been involved in an initiative with the Columbus Rotary to bring human trafficking training to the local police force. He hopes to bring a similar training applicable to public libraries and their staff. Director Harkness asks the board to make

time to attend one of the many events The CVL is hosting under the NEA Big Read Columbus: Where We Live event series. The CVL is in the early-stage planning to bring in some CSU students for internships at the libraries.

VIII. Branch Report

Assist. Director Burnett showed pictures from a collaboration between South Columbus Public Library with CSU theatre cast members from their show *Pinkalicious*. The cast members came to the library and participated in a *Pinkalicious* Party with the children making friendship bracelets, Families who attended the program at the library were given tickets to go see the CSU theatre production of *Pinkalicious*. CPL hosted an after-hours teen valentine program called *All is Fair in Love and Cupcakes*. They had a pizza party, made cupcakes, and played games. The teens had fun and made friends.

This week North Columbus Public Library is hosting a Paint your Partner Event for couples. Couples will come in and paint each other's portraits. If someone does not have a partner they can still participate, they will be paired with someone for the event. Mildred I. Terry Public Library in collaboration with the Gertrude "Ma" Rainey House and Blues Museum will be hosting the NEA Big Read: Ma Rainey's Columbus Roots program on February 22, which will include a walking tour and blues contest with prizes.

Assist. Director Burnett also gave an update on the issues with the 24-hour libraries. The Double Churches 24-hour library is finally up and running well. The Midland 24-hour library, however, is still experiencing issues. It is up and running with periodical down time. The vendor is building new replacement parts to correct the issues.

IX. New Business

i. Approve updated job descriptions.

a. Operations Coordinator

Jones made a motion to approve the new job description for Operations Coordinator. St. John seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously by Brito, Barnett, Berry, Fox, Jamison, Jones, King, McMurphy. Reynolds, and St. John.

ii. Review listed Policies

a. GOV 9 Use of Tobacco Products

Barnett made a motion to approve the changes to policy GOV 9 Use of Tobacco Products as indicated. Fox seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously by Brito, Barnett, Berry, Fox, Jamison, Jones, King, McMurphy. Reynolds, and St. John.

b. Policies GCV1, GSV4, GSV5, MNG2, MNG5

As there are no changes to the following the policies, GCV1 Volunteer Policy, GSV4 Tours, GSV 5 Film Showings, MNG2 Statistics, MNG5 Seasonal Exhibits and Display, St. John made a motion to accept the review of the policies as written. King seconded the motion. Motion was approved by Brito, Barnett, Berry, Fox, Jamison, Jones, King, McMurphy. Reynolds, and St. John.

X. Unfinished Business – there was none.

XI. Chair's Report

Chair Brito thanked everyone for their willingness to serve the board.

XII. Next meeting is set for April 14, 2025, at 11 AM. Location: Columbus Public Library. The meeting was adjourned at 11: 34 PM.