

Stewart County Library Board Meeting – Summary of Minutes
June 15, 2023 – 1:00 pm
Parks Memorial Public Library

In attendance:

Jenny Boling, Chair
Nea Permenter - Treasurer
Martha McCoy
Crystal Townsend
Bobbi Boynton
Lisa Wischnewsky

Also: Alan Harkness, Director, CVL
Doris Spinks-Russell, Parks Branch Manager
Gabbi Harp, Operations Coordinator, CVL
Lizette Cruz, Administrative Specialist, CVL

Chair Boling called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM. Chair Boling asked the board to review the minutes from the February 9th 2023, meeting. Motion to approve the minutes by Permenter, seconded by Townsend. Unanimous approval by Boling, Permenter, McCoy, Townsend, Boynton and Wischnewsky.

There were no Public Comments.

Treasurer's Report

Branch Manager Dee Spinks-Russell presented the fourth quarter report of the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The actual cash balance as of May in the account is \$14,714.46. The budget was adjusted to reflect the reduction in phone costs. The amount that was usually designated for phone is now equally divided between library supplies and cleaning.

Local Library Report

Spinks-Russell gave the local library report. The county Pre-K of 24+ kids has been coming out to the library every month to participate in various crafts and activities. In May, due to a transportation issue, the library brought the activities to the Pre-K classroom.

Attendance to programs are increasing. The most popular program at the moment is the Chair Yoga / Sit & Be Fit program. It was on Tuesdays and Thursdays however an extra day was requested by the participants. The program now meets Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. They have had up to seven participants at one time.

Meeting room reservations are increasing. Another popular program is the computer and iPhone programs. Patronage is also increasing.

Director's Report

The slab for the new South Columbus Public Library construction has finally been poured. The steel beams should begin going up this week. Unfortunately, due to various circumstances construction will not be completed until April or May of 2024.

Director Harkness invited board members to see the Clothes Story exhibit that is now on display at the Columbus Public Library throughout the month of June. The National Holocaust Museum exhibit will arrive July 5th and be on display through the rest of July. This is the only stop it is making in Georgia.

Director Harkness informed the board after careful consideration, he has decided that any email messaging on LGBTQ+ topics would be limited to adult recipients, and that book displays on this area in the branches would be limited to adult areas only.

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Vote to approve updated By-laws.

The updated by-laws have sat for more than 30 days from initial discussion. Permenter made a motion to accept the updated by-laws. McCoy seconded the motion. Unanimous approval by Boling, Permenter, McCoy, Townsend, Boynton and Wischnewsky.

Approve the FY24 Budget

After some discussion, Boynton made a motion to accept the FY24 budget as presented. Permenter seconded the motion. Unanimous approval by Boling, Permenter, McCoy, Townsend, Boynton and Wischnewsky.

Reconstruction of PMPL

Director Harkness believes that PMPL will be up for consideration for reconstruction funding with the state in 2025. Although the county has stated that they will be able to provide the \$100,000.00 commitment required for the state grant for \$900,000.00, Director Harkness suggested that the PMPL should apply to the Kirbo Foundation for those funds in case the ability of the county to provide those funds falls through.

Next meeting will take place August 10th at 1PM.

Permenter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wischnewsky seconded the motion. Unanimous approval by Boling, Permenter, McCoy, Townsend, Boynton and Wischnewsky.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.