

Muscogee County Library Board Meeting – Summary Minutes
Thursday, December 12, 2019 – 1 pm
Columbus Public Library – Synovus Room A

Members in Attendance:
Marion Scott, Chair
Dr. Frank Star
LaRae Moore
Donovan Granville
John Boyd
Todd Robinson
Lori Auten

Also in Attendance:
Alan Harkness, Director, CVL
Tammy Battley
Tracie Price, HR/Finance
Laura Ann Mann, Muscogee County Library
Foundation
Sharon Lyon, Friends of the Library
Cyndy Cerbin

Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

Chair Scott asked for **approval of the minutes** from the October 24, 2019 meeting. Lori Auten moved to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Todd Robinson. Motion was approved unanimously Auten, Star, Moore, Granville, Boyd, Robinson, and Illges.

Public Comment - None

Friends of the Library – Sharon Lyon indicated that the recent book sale went very well. The next event is to help the Foundation with the Delia Owens visit. The Friends will sell her books that day, and also have them for sale currently in the Friends Store. Board meeting on the 16th of December, and they're already working on their next big book sale for next summer

Muscogee County Library Foundation - Foundation Director Mann indicated that the Wine, Women, and Shoes event was a success. The King of Sole, the person who raised the most from the Sole Men, Kent Illges, was congratulated. The event was sold out, and using the Grand Reading Room for the Fashion Show worked very well. Having this event at the library addresses the issue that the Foundation wants to bring in a younger audience. The net take for the evening was about \$65,000.

Planning has begun for the Gala, which is a benefit for the Founder's Society members, and Delia Owens is slated to be here in January, with a public event to follow the next day. The Foundation is always looking for more board members.

Treasurer's Report – Tracie Price covered period four and explained some areas that might be called into question. There were no questions, however.

Director's Report - Alan Harkness mentioned that there was only one bid for the AC units to be installed on the inside of the Columbus Public Library. As we're still in the "cone of silence" we cannot mention the vendor or the amount, but the cost will exceed what was originally planned. Harkness indicated that he would bring all relevant material to the board in January for consideration and approval.

Harkness discussed Library of the Year and posited why CVL might not have been awarded it this year. There was some discussion about PINES and its relevancy to receiving the award. CVL will likely apply again in the future

Harkness summarized the policies that were passed by the Regional Board in October.

Harkness mentioned the program guides that were available on the table and informed the board that guides will appear in this Sunday's Ledger.

Director Harkness gave a presentation on the Fines Free program, which was a subset of a presentation he gave at the Directors' Meetings last week. The presentation featured some statistical analysis from the three months CVL has been fines free, and some great anecdotes from staff.

Branch Report – Deputy Director Lundeen is at a construction conference in Jacksonville and there was no branch report.

There was no **unfinished business**

New Business –

- a. **Nominations to fill vacant Library Board Seats as of 1/1/2020:** Three people were nominated to fill the slots vacated by board members rolling off at the end of December: Denise Eckley, Reggie Lewis, and Grace Nagal. Motion made to approve the new board members was made by Kent Illges, seconded by Dr. Frank Star. Motion was approved unanimously Auten, Star, Moore, Granville, Boyd, Robinson, and Illges.

Operations Committee

- a. The committee met before the board meeting to consider closing the library at 5pm on 1/23/20 for the Foundation Gala. Motion to approve the closure came from the committee, motion was seconded by John Boyd. Motion was approved unanimously Auten, Star, Moore, Granville, Boyd, Robinson, and Illges.

Chair's Report - Chair Scott thanked the board for her time serving, and wished incoming Chair Boyd well. Director Harkness also mentioned that Illges, Evans, Williams and Auten were also rolling off.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:31pm.