

Minutes of the Muscogee County Library Board Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 2019 – 1:00 PM
Columbus Public Library – Administrative Conference Room

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair, Marion Scott
Edie Evans
Len Williams
Lori Auten
Gayla Arrington
Dr. Frank Star
John Boyd

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Alan Harkness, Director
Felecia Malave, Administrative Assis. to the Director
Tammy Battley, Operations Coordinator
Tracie Price, Finance and HR Coordinator
Laura Ann Mann, Muscogee County Library
Foundation
Sharon Lyon, Friends of Muscogee Libraries
Amber Brookins, Tech Services & Statistical Coord.
Mike Edmondson, Muscogee Co. School Board
David Goldberg, Muscogee Co. School Board

Chair Marion Scott called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

Chair Scott asked for a review and approval of minutes from January 24, 2019 meeting. Len Williams moved to approved the minutes and Lori Auten seconded. Approval was unanimous by Scott, Evans, Williams, Auten, Arrington, Star and Boyd.

Public Comment – None

Friends of the Library – Sharon Lyon reported the Friends had a very successful One Day Fiction Book Sale Saturday, March 16. The Friends sold about \$2,100 worth of books during the event and the book store sold nearly \$1,100 worth of books. The biggest one day sale for both events.

Ms. Lyon also reported the Friends have appointed two new members to their board, Morgan Alan and Cynthia Strange. They are still looking for one more board member.

The friends will also be starting a membership drive in April which will be a joint effort with the Muscogee County Library Foundation.

Muscogee County Library Foundation – Laura Ann Mann also addressed the joint membership drive with the Friends of the Library. Both organizations are looking for support for the library as a whole. The Foundation is expecting to have an increase in direct to library support with the new budget. Mrs. Mann also reported the Foundation will have a strategic planning retreat on April 11th if anyone is interested in attending. Finally, Mrs. Mann addressed Wine, Women and Shoes and give a brief description of the event.

Treasurer's Report – Traci Price went over the financial reports from January as the February financial report had not been posted yet.

Director's Report – Alan Harkness reminded board members the Maurice Sendak exhibit will open April 13th at the Columbus Public Library. Multiple elementary schools from the area have set up tours for students already. Anyone interested in bringing a group for a guided tour can call Adult Services to schedule it.

The new phone system, security cameras, and internet provided have all been approved by the Muscogee County School Board and installation of all will begin very soon. Harkness also mentioned the new courier van has finally come in. Alan and Katie Burnett (Columbus Public Library Branch Manager) were interviewed recently by the Columbus and the Valley magazine about the 24 hour libraries. The program Guys Read was also featured on the front page of the newsletter for the Georgia Library News.

Harkness also addressed the fact that the Georgia library budget should be about the same with the potential for more money for repairs and books. As soon as the Georgia Governor signs the state's budget, Cusseta will receive funding for construction, the South branch is expected to get state funding in FY 2021. The President's proposed national budget will cut funding for all libraries, the state of Georgia stands to lose about \$4.1M if this is passed. The state also has a new platform for children's e-books that will potentially change some things for CVL, but that is not clear yet.

Branch Report – Alan Harkness encouraged members to read the branch report in the packet.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business –

Close Columbus Public Library at 1 pm on Thursday, November 14, 2019 for Wine, Women and Shoes – The Muscogee County Library Foundation plans to have the 2019 Wine, Women and Shoes on November 14th but would like to have the library close early to allow for set up and last minute details ahead of the fundraiser. Len Williams moved to close Columbus Public Library at 1:00 pm for Wine, Women and Shoes set up on Thursday, November 14, 2019. Dr. Frank Star seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by Scott, Evans, Auten, Arrington, Williams, Star and Boyd.

Operations Committee Recommendations –

The Operations Committee Recommends approving the change to the Circulation Supervision Job Description. The motion was seconded by Dr. Frank Star and approved unanimously by Scott, Evans, Auten, Arrington, Williams, Star and Boyd.

The Operations Committee also recommends accepting the painting by Randy Nguyen which is currently hung above the water fountains on the second floor. Dr. Frank Star seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by Scott, Evans, Auten, Arrington, Williams, Star and Boyd.

Finance Committee Recommendations –

The Finance Committee recommends approving the proposed Fines Free plan for the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries. Edie Evans seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by Scott, Evans, Auten, Arrington, Williams, Star and Boyd.

The Finance Committee recommends approving the proposed 2020 budget for the Library as presented by Tracie Price. Lori Auten seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by Scott, Evans, Auten, Arrington, Williams, Star and Boyd.

Finally, the Finance Committee recommends approving the New Capital Plan for 2019-2021. It was mentioned this is an ambitious plan but will be very exciting for the libraries if these things are able to be accomplished. Len Williams seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by Scott, Evans, Auten, Arrington, Williams, Star and Boyd.

Chair's Report – None

Next Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2019 at the Columbus Public Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 pm.