

Marion County Library Board Meeting
Thursday, April 14th, 2022 – 4:30 pm
Marion County Public Library

In attendance:

Tricia Henson, Chair
Cindy Haulk
Debbie Ford
Virginia Dennis

Also: Alan Harkness, Director, CVL
Kim Scott, MCLP Branch Manager

Chair Henson called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

There was no Public Comment

Chair Henson brought to everyone's attention the minutes from the March 1st, 2022 meeting. She asked for a motion to approve. Motion made by Haulk, seconded by Dennis. Passed unanimously by Ford, Haulk, Henson and Dennis.

There was no Treasurer's Report

Director's Report

Director Alan Harkness presented the director's report. He shared information on the upcoming Children's Book Festival on Saturday May 14th, 2022 from 10 to 1, the Summer Reading sponsored by AFLAC and the Smithsonian exhibit "The Bias Inside Us" coming to the Columbus Public Library in July.

Director Alan handed out the Fines Free Statistical Report for Marion County. In March of 2019, 23% of Stewart County library card holders were blocked. After instituting Fines Free and restructuring the charges for items not returned, the percentage of card holders blocked was reduced to 4%.

MR&R – Director Alan has asked the state to pay for half of the cost for the repair or replacement and for securing the air conditioning unit that was vandalized utilizing left-over funds of the MR&R grants from FY22 and they have agreed.

Director Harkness passed out a Facility Planning informational worksheet illustrating how the Capital Outlay or MR&R grants could help in either constructing a new library building, remodeling the present building or renovating another building in a better location based on different grant and seed funding scenarios to supplement the conversation that was begun at the March 1st meeting.

Director Alan pointed to the Cusseta-Chattahoochee newly expanded building which will have its grand reopening on June 25th. Before the meeting ended some more discussion was had on the Capital Outlay or MR&R grants. The board will continue to look at all options and scenarios before deciding as to which grant can realistically be applied for.

Local Library Report

Manager Scott gave her local library report. The patronage at the Marion County Public Library has been increasing. There is an increase of persons moving into the county and an increase of patronage from outside of the county as well. Now that COVID numbers are decreasing the library has planned several in person programs for the coming summer months to include: library check out bags showcasing the State Park Passes and other event passes, Storytime starting in May, Golden Ticket Tuesday, 2 children's book authors meet & greets, Jelly Box 3D printer demos, and a "Got a Clue - Mystery in the Library" fun crime solving event.

A new yard service crew had been awarded the bid for yard maintenance, Jay Romero. The service cost will remain the same as in the previous contract.

There was no Unfinished Business

New Business

Budget 2022-2023

Scott went over the proposed budget for 2022-2023. Chair Henson asked for a motion to approve the budget. Haulk made the motion to approve the budget. Ford seconded. Unanimous approval by Henson, Haulk, Ford, and Dennis.

Project Request to repair or replace and secure damaged air conditioning unit.

Scott presented the proposal and bids for the repair or replacement and securement of the vandalized and damaged air conditioning unit. Director Alan was able to secure funds for the state to pay for half of the cost. There is one more bid that Scott is waiting for. A motion was made by Dennis to forgo repair and to instead replace the unit with a new one. Haulk seconded. Unanimous approval by Henson, Haulk, Ford, and Dennis.

A motion was made by Ford to approve Scott to spend up to \$6,750.00 (amount to be clarified) on the new unit, including the fencing/securement of the new unit, with the state matching the \$6,750.00, (amount to be clarified) for a total of up to \$13,500.00 Dennis seconded the motion. Unanimous approval by Henson, Haulk, Ford, and Dennis.

Chair Report

The Marion County Community will be hosting a book signing with Mary Kay Andrews at the bed and breakfast across from the library. Patrons have been coming to the library to check out the author's books in anticipation of this event.

The next Meeting Date is July 14, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM