

Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2015
Columbus Public Library

Minutes

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Helene Watson Owen Ditchfield
David Fox James Dudley
Sherry Anthony Martha Burgamy

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Laura Larmore

OTHERS ATTENDING

Alan Harkness, CVL Director
Debbie McGreggor, Administrative Assistant to the Director
Charles Gibson, Mayor of City of Lumpkin

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

MINUTES

The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the January 15, 2015 meeting. Owen Ditchfield moved the minutes be approved as distributed. James Dudley seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chair recognized Mayor Charles Gibson of the City of Lumpkin. Mayor Gibson addressed the Board regarding proposed library in Lumpkin. He asked the Board why the meeting scheduled for April was not held. He wanted to know if it had something to do with Lumpkin and possibly keeping attendance by residents at the meeting to a minimum. The Chair explained to the Mayor that the meeting was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum to conduct business. She stated there were a number of Board members that were ill at the time and unable to make the meeting.

Mayor Gibson proceeded to explain he feelings for the need of a library in Lumpkin and that he felt the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Board had let that community down by not agreeing to provide the operation of the facility if and when it is built. The Board once again explained to the Mayor that this was a business decision. Stewart County is one of the poorest counties in the

State of Georgia and the diminished population of the county does not warrant a second library in the county. The Mayor again stated that the 9 miles from Lumpkin to Richland places a hardship on the citizens of Lumpkin that are not able to get transportation to the library in Richland.

He asked if the Board had made a decision on whether it will or will not support a library in Lumpkin if it is built. The Chair stated that the Lumpkin Library was on the agenda to be addressed later in the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of Lyn Anderson, Alan Harkness provided the Treasurer's Report. He reported that revenue and expenses were in line for the period and that all funding from the county agencies has been received for FY2014/2015.

David Fox moved the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. Owen Ditchfield seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's Report was distributed prior to the meeting. The Director added the following to his report.

- The library applied to the local Family Foundation for a grant for a suite of services that included strategic planning and they did not receive the grant. They will begin looking at other ways to fund these items.
- For the people that use Brainfuse throughout the system, the top ten areas used are eight in the mathematics category and two in the sciences. David Fox asked if the county school systems are involved in Brainfuse. The Director said all Boards of Educations and are working to provide the service to all.
- The library system received an increase to its FY2015/2016 budget due to an increase in the tax digest from the school district. It also received an increase from the Library Foundation. These increases will allow for adding a couple of more people to the Children's Department to expand the outreach. Additional materials will be purchased as well.
- Mango, a language resource offered by the library, will be picked up by the State and offered through Galileo later this year. This will provide a savings of several thousand dollars.
- The RFP process has been initiated with the school district to purchase the security gates for all library locations. Only the Muscogee County libraries will be getting self-checks.
- Prime Time and Prime Time for Preschool has just been completed. This was a pilot program that the State provided. There were approximately four dozen families that participated in the program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Stewart County Library Board Recommendation – The following recommendation was presented.

The Stewart County Library Board is making this recommendation to the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Board that due to the lack of participation of the City of Lumpkin in funding the Parks Memorial Public Library in Richland and their lack of funding to the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries that the City of Lumpkin should be removed from the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries.

The Board voted as follows on the Stewart County Library Board recommendation:

Voting for the recommendation:

Owen Ditchfield
David Fox
Sherry Anthony
James Dudley

Martha Burgamy abstained from the vote.

The recommendation passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Capital Outlay Grant – Director Harkness explained to the Board that with the passage of the 2015 SPLOST through the Muscogee County School District, the Muscogee County Libraries were allowed two projects.

1. Expansion and renovation of the South Columbus Public Library
2. An 24 hour eService located in North Columbus

Mr. Harkness explained that funds received for the expansion and renovation of the South Columbus Public Library can be matched with funds from a Capital Outlay Grant through the State of Georgia. His request was for approval by the Board to make application for the Capital Outlay grant. Owen Ditchfield moved to approve the request. David Fox seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Library Closings Calendar 2015/2016 – The Board reviewed the proposed library closings as presented. David Fox moved to approve the closings calendar. Martha Burgamy seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation on the Board and for filling in when she was unable to attend at the January meeting.

COUNTY REPORTS

Marion County – Sherry Anthony reported that the Marion County Public Library held its kickoff for the Aflac Vacation Reading program. She stated the attendance was good and they are looking forward to a good participation rate this summer.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County – Martha Burgamy reported the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Public Library had also had their Aflac Vacation Reading program kickoff. She also reported that they had 25 children ring the Literacy Bell. Children are allowed to ring the bell once they have learned to read. She said the program has been very successful and has really inspired the children to read.

Muscogee County – David Fox reported over 2,500 people attended FanFest, the kickoff to the Aflac Vacation Reading program. He stated he had attended with his grandson and was very happy to see such a good turnout. He reminded the Board that the weekend of FanFest was a busy one in the Midtown area due to Arts in the Park and the Columbus water slide that same weekend.

He expressed thanks to Debbie McGregor for her work with the Boards and wish her best wishes in her retirement. Her last day will be Friday, May 29th.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.