

Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Board
Thursday, October 16, 2014
Marion County Public Library
Buena Vista, GA

Minutes

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Sivan Walker-Dixon Owen Ditchfield
Helene Watson David Fox
Mike Webb

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Lisa Goodwin Dorothy Kennedy

OTHERS ATTENDING

Alan Harkness, CVL Director
Lyn Anderson, CVL CFO

Chair Sivan Walker-Dixon called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

MINUTES

The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the August 21, 2014 meeting. Helene Watson moved the minutes be approved as distributed. Owen Ditchfield seconded the motion. Mr. Ditchfield addressed the minutes because he had noted in the last meeting that on one of the pages the Treasurer's Report, there was no need in one of the columns. Mr. Anderson explained to Mr. Ditchfield that there was an entry in the column and that was Muscogee County. Mr. Anderson said he could delete one column. Mr. Ditchfield asked if there had been any further negotiations with Ft. Benning. Mr. Harkness said that his last discussion with them about what they pay their staff compared to what CVL pays and it would not be mutually beneficial and would basically be a wash. He said he told them if there are programs or services we provide that they would like to discuss, he would welcome them but to date has not heard anything else from them. Mr. Ditchfield asked if anything further had been done with regard to the new firearms law. Mr. Harkness said no that he was still waiting to hear more from the counties and it must be coordinated with them. Mr. Ditchfield asked if a regional policy could be drafted. Mr. Harkness said that no policy can in effect change the law. He said the staff will need to be better educated as to how the law is interpreted. Mr. Ditchfield questioned the search of backpacks. Mr. Harkness stated that he would not allow the random search of backpacks. He stated that once the security gates are in place and if the alarm sounds, then it would be appropriate to search the backpacks. **The motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT -- There was none.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lyn Anderson reported on the financials of the system to the Board. Mr. Anderson explained that no funding has been received from the counties because the billing had not been sent out. Mr. Webb asked when the counties could expect to receive their bills. Mr. Anderson said they had gone out since the report was generated and the counties should have them by now.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's Report was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting.

Mr. Harkness provided the Board with additional numbers on the rollout of the Brainfuse program. There were 453 unique users and 84% of those users used the actual tutors. The average tutor session was 22 minutes. The top five tutoring needs were all math related. The service also polls the users at the end of a session – 92% were glad we have the service; 87% would recommend it to a friend and 92% said it helped them with their homework. Mr. Harkness reported he met with the superintendent in Stewart County about the program and will be meeting with the superintendents in Marion, Cusseta-Chattahoochee Counties to discuss this program. Mr. Harkness reported that several staff members are going out in the communities and disseminating information on Brainfuse and CLUE. Mr. Harkness stated that the marketing department will begin pushing the electronic resources available through the library after the first of the year.

Mike Webb stated that the library has such a gold mine of resources that many people are not aware of.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Operating Policies Review (No Revisions)

1. MNG1 – Confidentiality of Library Records
2. MNG 2 – Statistics
3. MNG3 – Reconsideration of Library Materials
4. MNG4 – Facilities Use
5. MNG5 – Seasonal Exhibits and Displays
6. MNG6 – Alcoholic Beverages
7. MNG7 – Inclement Weather and Closing
8. MNG 8 – Exhibits and Displays
9. GSV1 – Volunteer Policy
10. GSV3 – Programs
11. GSV4 – Tours
12. GSV5 – Film Showings

Helene Watson moved that since there were no revisions, the above policies be approved. Owen Ditchfield seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

Policy Revisions/Deletions

CIR1 – Library Cards

David Fox moved CIR1 be approved as amended. Helene Watson seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

CIR6 – Claimed Fine Paid and Claimed Returned

Owen Ditchfield moved CIR6 be approved as amended. Mike Webb seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

CIR8 – Fines

Owen Ditchfield moved CIR8 be approved as amended. David Fox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INF3 – Computer/Internet Use

Owen Ditchfield moved INF3 be approved as amended. Helene Watson seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

INF5 – Visitor Computer Use

David Fox moved INF5 be deleted as requested. Owen Ditchfield seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

GSV2 – Volunteer Background Check

Owen Ditchfield moved to approve the policy as amended. David Fox seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

CHAIR’S REPORT

The Chair asked David Fox and Helene Watson to please prepare a 2015 Slate of Officers at the January 2015 CVL Board meeting.

The Chair reported that this is her last meeting as CVL Board Chair and she will be rotating off of the Marion County Board effective December 31, 2014.

COUNTY TRUSTEE REPORTS

Marion County -- The Chair reported that Owen Ditchfield questioned her on the signage for the library in Marion County. The Chair stated that Marion County has received a grant to cover maintenance of the library grounds as well as signage for the library. Helene Watson asked if this was an ongoing grant or just a one-time thing. The Chair stated that it was a one-time grant but that the library could apply for another grant in the future. Owen Ditchfield voiced concern

over the parking of police cars in the parking lot. Ms. Walker-Dixon explained that the City of Buena Vista owns the library building and tends to use the parking lot.

She also reported that Marion County Public Library Manager, Kim Scott, is going out to the schools and pushing new programs to them such as Brainfuse.

Muscogee County – Owen Ditchfield reported that everything was actually reported in the Director’s Report. David Fox said the only thing he would add is that last month the Muscogee County Library Board recommended two new members for the Muscogee County Library Board. He stated they still need one more to fill a vacancy on the Board.

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County – Mike Webb reported that Pam Burgamy, C-CCPL Manager, is working on possibly changing the hours of the library to adjust them to more adequately fit the needs of the community. He stated this is not an increase or decrease in hours, just moving hours around to achieve current needs. Mr. Webb also reported that the C-CCPL Board will have one member to replace on their Board effective January 1, 2015.

Stewart County – There was not a representative of the Stewart County Library Board present. Owen Ditchfield stated he would like to discuss the Lumpkin situation. David Fox asked if there were decisions to be made by the CVL Board. Mr. Harkness stated that there was nothing for the CVL Board to vote on regarding this matter. Mr. Ditchfield stated that as it stands now, they (Lumpkin) are asked to provide funds to the CVL Board. Mr. Harkness stated yes in the amount of approximately \$2,800. Mr. Ditchfield state it is a county with two cities but from what Mr. Harkness reported, people who live in Lumpkin are major users of the library in Richland. Mr. Harkness that approximately 240 + residents of Lumpkin use the Parks Memorial Public Library in Richland. Mr. Ditchfield asked if the City of Lumpkin was paying their fair share. Mr. Harkness stated there is no standardized “fair share” program in the counties as far as what they pay for in relation to the services they receive. The amounts people have paid over the years have not addressed this issue and this is something he would like to see changed but that will take time. Mr. Ditchfield stated that it did not seem fair that the City of Lumpkin is not paying their share to support the library in Richland which their residents are using. He stated this is not just and that they should be contributing to the operation of the library in Richland. Mr. Harkness stated it is the choice of the City of Lumpkin not to fund the library in Richland if they so choose. Mr. Ditchfield then asked why they are allowed to use that facility. Mr. Harkness answered because it is a public library. Mr. Ditchfield stated but it is not being supported equally.

David Fox asked if the state recognized each county or the number of facilities in a county. Mr. Harkness said the state recognizes the county and not the number of facilities. He said that most rural counties only have one library facility. David Fox asked if there would be no library in Lumpkin. Mr. Harkness stated yes and that the service agreement that the Mayor of Lumpkin signed in 2012 does not say anything about the services to be received; it only states that they will participate. The decision to cut bookmobile service to offset the deficit was an administrative decision. Mr. Harkness stated he had met with the Stewart County Superintendent today and suggested that instead of parking the bookmobile on the square in Lumpkin that it could be sent to the schools instead. He said she was agreeable to that and he

will be looking into making that possible. Mr. Harkness stated that in the future if Lumpkin wishes to rejoin and get additional service in Lumpkin, it will certainly be looked at. He said they (Lumpkin) have put themselves in a difficult situation and that is their prerogative. He stated that since the library in Lumpkin closed in 2009, no progress to reopen has really been made.

David Fox asked if the grant that the CVL Board voted on to help Lumpkin get state money to build a new library goes away. Mr. Harkness stated it would. Mr. Fox asked about the materials that were in the existing library that was closed in 2009. Mr. Harkness stated that the Rural Public Libraries project donated 1,100 (+/-) books to the Lumpkin Library which have been housed at the Columbus Public Library until such time as a new library in Lumpkin would open. He said he had notified the Mayor and informed in that he needed to 1.) Come and get them, 2.) Add to the CVL collection, or 3.) Pay a storage fee.

Mr. Harkness stated the bottom line is Lumpkin has stated they will pull out of the system. There has been a lot of time and effort spent on this project.

Mike Webb asked if the Stewart County Commission might make up the shortfall in Stewart County with the absence of funding from Lumpkin. Mr. Harkness said he hoped to address this in the future once the Lumpkin situation is resolved.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Board will be Thursday, January 15, 2015 at the Columbus Public Library in Muscogee County.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.