

Muscogee County Library Board Meeting  
Thursday, February 26, 2015  
Columbus Public Library

MINUTES

MEMBERS ATTENDING

David Fox	Meridith Jarrell	Carleton Coleman
Owen Ditchfield	Helene Watson	Lori Auten
James Dudley	Mary Bode	Frank Star
Eddie Evans	Kent Illges	

Ex-officios: David Lewis, MCSD  
Kia Chambers, MCSD  
Sharon Self, Friends of Libraries  
Ed Burdeshaw, Library Foundation

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Len Williams  
Marion Scott

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ex-officio: Shannon Smallman, MCSD

OTHERS ATTENDING

Alan Harkness, CVL Director  
Lyn Anderson, CVL Chief Financial Officer  
Gabe Lundeen, CVL Deputy Director  
Debbie McGreggor, Administrative Assistant to the Director  
Susan Hayes, CVL Collection Development Coordinator

Chair David Fox called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the January 22, 2015 meeting. Owen Ditchfield moved the minutes be approved as distributed. Frank Star seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

## FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES

Sharon Self reported the Friends of Libraries hosted a birthday party for the library on February 3<sup>rd</sup> celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year. She said refreshments were made available to customers. She reported they also hosted a “Re-Grand Opening” of the Children’s Department after the recent renovations.

Ms. Self announced the FOL are currently working on this year’s essay contest. She said the contest will be broken into three age groups with three different topics.

## LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Ed Burdeshaw reported that the annual campaign and GALA were very successful. He said the organization is very pleased with funding raised due to a considerable reduction in expenses. The reduction in expenses was due to the hard work of the Board members. He expressed appreciation to Laura Ann Mann, Library Foundation Executive Director, for her hard work prior to the GALA and the birth of her first child.

Mr. Burdeshaw stated that Susan Orlean (guest author/GALA Keynote speaker) was extremely personable and did a wonder presentation at the GALA as well as the event the public event.

Chair Fox thanked Ms. Self and Mr. Burdeshaw for their organizations’ continued hard work and support of the library.

## TREASURER’S REPORT

Kent Illges recognized Lyn Anderson for the report on the Period 7 Financials. Mr. Anderson reported there was nothing unusual in revenue for the period. Funding from all of the counties has been received with the exception of the City of Lumpkin which they will not pay and will be removed from future reports. He stated the first Internet reimbursement from the State will come in April. Mr. Anderson reported that \$32,130 was spent on computer equipment during the period. He stated that expenses are in line for the period.

## DIRECTOR’S REPORT

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

- Thanked the Friends of Libraries for hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the library.
- Congratulated the Foundation for a successful GALA.
- Reported that in FY2016, carpet in meeting rooms will be replaced.
- The Library Foundation is interested in asking the library to close the Columbus Public Library for a day in the fall. More information on this will be presented at a later date in order to get Library Board approval.
- The mobile that has been hanging in the rotunda for several years has been removed. A piece of the mobile fell. It was determined to be a safety issue and the mobile was

removed. TAP will be working with the library to provide another piece of art to replace the mobile.

## BRANCH REPORT

Gabe Lundeen reported that he is extremely excited about a new statewide program being pushed. The program is called *1,000 Books Before Kindergarten*. He said he does not have all of the details at this moment but is hoping Board members will help with getting the word out about this program. He said he did not know exactly what incentives will be used to entice activity in the program but those details will be forthcoming.

Owen Ditchfield stated there is a need to encourage people to read to their children. Mr. Lundeen stated that the library's Simple Steps program is definitely addressing this issue. Mr. Ditchfield asked if the 1,000 Books program might tie in with the Ferst Foundation. Alan Harkness stated the library has partnered with the Ferst Foundation before.

Mr. Lundeen presented a short film produced by the Circulation Department for In-Service Day. Departments were instructed to be as creative as possible in making presentations to better familiarize other CVL employees with the staff members in their respective departments. Chair Fox stated he and Sharon Self, Friends of Libraries, attended the first half of In-Service Day and were extremely pleased with the creative ideas the departments used in presenting themselves to other departments.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1999 SPLOST – Mr. Harkness stated he is meeting with Newt Aaron every two weeks until the 1999 SPLOST is finished.

## NEW BUSINESS

Operations Committee Recommendations:

1. It was the recommendation of the Operations Committee to approve the proposed personnel changes as presented. (Copy of changes attached.) **The recommendation was approved unanimously.**
2. It was the recommendation of the Operations Committee to approve the display of a photograph donated by Dr. and Mrs. Price Walker to be hung in the meeting room at the Mildred L. Terry Public Library that they purchased the naming rights. **The recommendation was approved unanimously.**

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommended the approval of the Proposed FY2015/2016 Preliminary Budget. **The recommendation was approved unanimously.**

The Finance Committee recommended that the Muscogee County Library Board firmly endorses the passage of the 2015 SPLOST. **The recommendation passed unanimously.**

(Note: Dr. David Lewis, Superintendent for the Muscogee County School District removed himself from the meeting for this recommendation.)

Frank Star encouraged all Board members to attend at least one of the public forums being offered concerning the SPLOST. He stated that he has attended one and the information provided is extremely interesting and valuable.

### CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Fox stated that he was honored and pleased to be at the In-Service Day event for library employees. He reported that the Employee of the Year was named during the event and it was Henry McCoy, CVL Programming Coordinator.

### BOARD EDUCATION

Susan Hayes, CVL Collection Development Coordinator, presented an overview of the Technical Services Department to the Board.

The next meeting of the Muscogee County Library Board will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.