

## **Loudon County Library Board of Trustee Meeting**

### **Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**RSCC Community Room, Lenoir City**

**July 22, 2021**

**Call to order:** 5:00 by Chair Sarah Thomason.

**Present:** Trustees: Cindy Benefield, Ed Donley, JoAnn Hart, Sandi Jorgensen, Carolyn Page, Kyle Styer, Sarah Thomason.

**Directors:** Jordan Baker, Kate Clabough, Susan Dorsey, Mark Williams, ORRL Director, Liz Shreck.

**Absent:** Trustees Phyllis Thompson, Beth Waldmann, both excused: Director Carol Deforest.

**Open comments by chair:** Thomason distribute packets to attendees. All documents are attached. She stressed the importance of two goals: more staffing hours and budget increases. She asked the trustees to review the document which listed goals for consideration for the year and to bring to the next meeting their suggestions about what goals to undertake. Donley recommended that all documents be dated. Thomason reported that all county employees are getting a \$1000 pay raise this year. Director Williams distribute forms for visitors.

**Agenda:** Approved.

**Minutes:** Benefield moved to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 board meeting. Seconded by Hart. Approved. Minutes will be sent to Tom Lewis at IT. Jorgensen requested that all complicated and important motions be submitted to the secretary in writing so that the minutes will contain accurate wording. The group readily agreed to that.

**Treasurer:** Report submitted. The report showed a balance of \$13,357.03 as of July 19, 2021. Page mentioned one addition to the report. She received the Tellico Village MOE today, \$9000.

**Ocoee River Regional Library Report:** Report submitted. The first of the training sessions will begin August 17. There are two important grants available : Tech grant and ARPA grant. Schrek encouraged the directors to look into both.

There will be a trustee workshop in Crossville on September 28, 2021.

**County Liaison Report:** No report.

**Director's Reports:** Reports submitted from all five libraries.

Greenback: Baker was pleased with the summer reading program.

Lenoir City: With extra dollars received from the city, Dorsey has been able to add staff hours. This has enabled the library to have two people at closing for 90% of the time. The library had an all time high for circulation during COVID.

Loudon: Clabaugh announced that from 20 to 30 children attended the summer reading program every week. She also had excellent parental involvement.

The library has also been chosen to participate in the NASA telescope community event. She is currently working on that with hopes to get one of the three Tennessee astronauts to participate.

An escape room for the library is being planned. The theme will be "Alice in Wonderland." Trustee Styer suggested looking into using the UT inflatable planetarium.

Philadelphia: Williams partnered with the elementary school for a successful summer reading program. He has also begun a Friends group for the library. This group will not have not-for-profit status, but will meet the IRS guidelines for accepting gifts.

## **Committee and Activities Report:**

### **Community Outreach**

Waldmann's report submitted. There was a discussion concerning the leftover materials from the arts and crafts fair. Thomason will retrieve them and distribute them to the libraries so that the Outreach Committee will have them available for distribution to schools.

**Discussion of Future Service and Facilities Plan:** Board agree that it is not interested in paying money to the design center. Directors feel they can use their own initiative and judgement.

**Fundraising Idea:** Thomason suggested asking the Chamber of Commerce to do a fund raiser to benefit the County Library Board. She suggested selling a sweatshirt or tee shirt with the County courthouse. Styer moved and Page seconded that we pursue this idea. Motion carried. Thomason will look into this.

**Monthly Budget Reports for County:** William distributed a flier which he produced to show the library statistics in a more creative and eye catching manner. Contrasted to the usual graph, this new form had a much bigger impact.

It was suggested that this new format would make a much better presentation to the County Commissioners. It was also suggested that this new format have all of the numbers combined, rather than broken down by library.

Schrek commented the OC has a program, "Libraries by the Numbers" which can make this type of presentation.

It was agreed that a new format would be a strong selling point for requesting more dollars.

Thomason suggested that each director come up with one big idea that he/she would like to make happen in the respective libraries. It is felt that the Commissioners need to be presented with concrete ideas. These ideas would also be a selling point to use when asking the Chamber of Commerce to hold a fundraiser for us. Along those lines, Styer discussed the merits of 3-D printers in a library.

**Location of Future Meetings:** Baker will check into having the September meeting in Greenback. After that, Thomason would like to establish a permanent location for Board meeting. She will pursue that. It was decided that e-mails only should be posted on public rosters such as the web-site.

**Next Meeting Dates:**

September 23, 2021

November 18, 2021

January 27, 2022

March 24, 2022

May 26, 2022

**Adjournment: 6:00**

Respectfully submitted

Sandra Jorgensen, Secretary

Attachments:

Agenda

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

LCBL Goals for 2021-2022

Standing Committees

Future Services and Facilities Plan

Directors' Reports

Sample flier for County Commissioners