

Library Advisory Board Meeting
January 15, 2023
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Caitie Cerise at 4:00 PM

Roll Call – Attending the meeting were Heather Johnson, Jess Mitchell, Lucy Dingledey, Craig Reynolds, Becky King, Beth Brendlinger and Lynn Lamere.

Minutes – No corrections noted. A motion to approve the minutes for the July 2022 meeting was made by Beth Brendlinger. Lucy Dingledey seconded. All voted in favor and minutes were approved. A motion to approve the minutes for the October 2022 meeting was made by Jess Mitchell. Beth Brendlinger seconded. All voted in favor and minutes were approved.

Director’s Report – Caitie Cerise elaborated on the submitted Director’s Report.

Old Business

Library Staffing - Caitie announced the hiring of Library Technology Specialist Daniel Bradley, and Outreach Coordinator Morgan Strickland, both of which are new positions for this fiscal year. Morgan was previously employed as a part-time floating clerk, and her position will be posted.

Bookmobile update – Caitie announced that the Bookmobile has been completed and is waiting on a final suspension adjustment at Ford before delivery.

LSTA grants – Caitie announced that materials have been purchased for the digitization project and staff training has started. For the patron counting system grant, we are waiting on the vendor to be registered in SunBiz so that the county can contract with them.

Career Online High School Update – Caitie announced that another student is almost done with her program, which will give us two graduates. Additionally, the funding for this program is done for the year. Caitie will continue to look for funding opportunities so that the library can offer more scholarships to qualified students.

DeFuniak Land purchase – Caitie announced that she is working with the county’s administrative liaison to draft the Triumph grant application to fund the construction of the building.

Paxton Library update – Caitie announced that she met with Heather Johnson and Walton County Facilities Maintenance to review the old Masonic lodge and determine the cost to renovate it for a library. The cost was approximately the same as the county’s portion if they were to work with the City of Paxton to pursue USDA funding. The lot adjoined to Ghentsville Park in Paxton is owned by the county and has been determined by the county’s environmental engineer at Public Works to be suitable for construction of a library. Heather stated that the Paxton Friends of the Library are officially a 501c3 nonprofit.

Freeport Library update – Caitie announced that the Friends of the Freeport Public Library are under contract with Archiscapes for the architectural designs for the Freeport Library expansion. They will continue to fundraise and write grants for construction funds.

New Business:

Outreach – Caitie stated that library outreach has begun this month now that Morgan has fully transitioned to her full-time Outreach Coordinator position. Morgan is hosting off-site programming and reaching out to other community partners to schedule events, and determining regular stops for the Bookmobile throughout the county once it arrives.

Board reappointments and vacancies – Caitie noted that Todd was appointed by the City of DeFuniak and would have to see if they reappointed him for another term. Heather Johnson is at the end of her term and has requested to be reappointed. Caitie announced that Monda resigned her position as the District 3 representative and the vacancy has been advertised. There were no applicants by the deadline of December 31 who lived in District 3 and Commissioner Barker requested to continue searching. Caitie requested the Board to encourage anyone they know in District 3 to apply if they are interested. Caitie also noted that all terms for volunteer boards across the county will now expire on January 31, which means both Lynn and Jessica's terms were adjusted to meet this date.

Staff Development Day – Caitie announced the annual staff development day will be held on February 6. All libraries will be closed for the day so that staff can gather together for training. Funds were received from PLAN to hire a speaker, Curtis Rogers, to speak to the staff about communication styles and communicating with each other and the public.

There were no other comments or new business added by those present.

Meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/qPp9f1ei5afzHmtegF_1FxUGzMnKjoQZI9jflazJGzazpBp1R0nIBX8CosuryPNS.n7nYsekhKCoZUZXY?startTime=1673992820000

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