PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
6:00 PM May 16th, 2024
Captain Kimberly Hampton Memorial Library

PRESIDING: Ms. Lori Osborn, Vice Chair – At Large

Mr. Alfred Wheeler – District 1 (Clemson)
Ms. Nancy Miller – District 2 (Six Mile/Central)
Mr. Danny Parton – District 3 (Pickens)
Ms. Alesa Pinkerton – District 4 (Liberty)
Ms. Karen Culley, Secretary – District 5 (Easley)

6:07 Meeting Called to Order by Lori Osborn, Vice Chair, presiding in absence of Susan Childers

Library Staff Presentation by Kate Wiltrout, Youth Services Manager

- Monthly average of 3,700 visitors to the Easley Youth Services department since the beginning of 2024
- Average of over 1,300 program attendees each month for YS programming since the beginning of 2024
- Over 65 YS programs per month lead by YS staff
- Have seen an increase in attendance at Teen Programming (12-17)
- 38 YS Outreach events in FY23 with over 2,600 interactions
- 50+ Teen Book Boxes issued each month

The observation bee hives at the library are doing well. Kevin Travers from Hive Minded Honey Company in Easley is our beekeeper for the hives.

Applied for and Received the State Library's LSTA Summer Reading Grant. That grant was used to add items to our Library of Things. Discussed Youth Services goals for 2024.

Summer Reading – The Summer Reading kickoff will be May 31st from 10am- 1pm at all branches. The theme this year is Adventure Begins at Your Library. The Library's Bookmark competition also kicks off on June 1st and ends July 31st.

Vice Chair Lori Osborn read a statement:

"There has been much talk about my statement during a Committee of the Whole Meeting where I stated that I would never vote to ban a book. Before we begin tonight I would like to address that as one of my peer's told me this is the elephant in the room. So, I would like to say, yes, I did say I would never vote to ban a book and yes I stand by my beliefs that banning books is not a solution to what some consider problems. I did not say, however, that I would never vote to move a book to another location in the library. These are two totally different actions. So no, I will not recuse myself from voting."

The Board and Library Director introduced themselves to the public.

Public Comment Policy Discussion/Revision:

Board member Wheeler began the discussion stating that there was some concern over language in the newly adopted Public Speaking policy. Mr. Wheeler read the portion of the policy in question, *"No speaker may use language that is obscene, disruptive, scurrilous or recklessly defamatory."* There was a concern among the public that this statement meant that you could not quote from a book that contained what you consider obscene language. Mr. Wheeler suggested that we replace that section of the policy so that it is clear. Mr. Wheeler stated that the Board wanted to make sure that in public comments speakers were not defaming members of the Board of other members of the community. Mr. Wheeler then suggested substitute language reading, *"No speaker may employ language that is obscene, disruptive, scurrilous, or recklessly defamatory, and comments that describe Board members and any other participants in Board Meetings including their opinions, proposals, and dually constituted actions."*

Ms. Culley asked if the proposed language included library staff. Mr. Wheeler stated that we could include "library staff" in the alternate language as well.

Ms. Osborn asked for a motion to adopt the new language. Mr. Parton made a motion to table the vote until the next meeting, so that everyone could look at the language closely and understand it. This motion was seconded by Ms. Pinkerton.
Discussion of the changes to public speaking policy were tabled until the next Board Meeting

Public Comment:

Johnnelle Raines: Ms. Raines addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and indicated that she believes the Board should move certain materials due to her religious beliefs. She compared children reading inappropriate materials to sexual assault.

Denise Davidson: Ms. Davison addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and indicated her approval for the Greenville County Library System's change of policy to move certain items to a special collection.

Michael Ticknor: Mr. Ticknor addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. He asserted that as someone who works as a sex offender registrar, he believes it is illegal to give materials that depict sexual activity to minors.

Kathleen Campbell: Ms. Campbell ceded her time to Mr. Duncan.

Jamie Duncan: Mr. Duncan addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. He asserted that, as a pastor, he believes that certain materials should not be available to unmonitored minors.

Kate Byrd: Ms. Byrd addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and indicated that she did not support materials being censored or moved to alternative locations.

Travis McAlister: Mr. McAlister addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and indicated that as a regional radio host and pastor, he believes that materials that discuss LBGTQIA+ people should not be available to children.

Abi Clark: Ms. Clark addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and indicated that materials should not be censored due to the first amendment and the use of state and federal funding.

Alex Currin: Mr. Currin addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and indicated that it is his belief that citizens should be given the freedom to read what they wish, and that many items up for reconsideration are books written for adults that are housed in the adult section of the library.

Jennifer Whitlock: Ms. Whitlock addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and gave an anecdote regarding a friend of her daughter who pulled a book off the shelf that she felt was not appropriate.

Susan Sheridan: Ms. Sheridan addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that she does not want the library to become a haven for pedophiles and that she believes certain materials cause sexual arousal, depression, and teen pregnancy.

Reba Kruse: Ms. Kruse addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. Ms. Kruse indicated that she does not approve of efforts to move or remove items in the library and asserted that the first amendment protects a parent's right to guide their children's material choices.

Mae Anderson: Ms. Anderson addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that she believes that teens such as herself should be able to access materials that they are interested in and that deal with issues important to them without having to find them in the adult section if these items are moved.

Lisa Robinson: Ms. Robinson addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that she supports library staff and trained professionals to choose materials and does not support efforts to remove or move materials. She asserted that high rates of poverty and illiteracy should be prioritized.

Sharon Nelson: Ms. Nelson addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that she believes that pornographic material is available in the library and should be removed.

Gregg D'Avenio: Mr. D'Avenio addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. He asserted that pornographic materials are available in libraries and schools across the country, and that these materials promote acceptance of transgender people and pedophilia.

Sheila Crawford: Ms. Crawford addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that, as the president of the Pickens NAACP, she believes that censorship will limit the knowledge of children and keep them from topics and materials that interest them.

Keri Kwist: Ms. Kwist addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations, specifically for the book *All Boys Aren't Blue.* Ms. Kwist indicated her support for this book remaining in the Young Adult section and praised the book's themes of love and family.

Cathy Travers: Ms. Travers addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that, as a retired art teacher that focused on special needs students, she understands the complexity of children's feelings, and indicated that she believes explicit material cannot be incorporated into that.

Mark Kilburn: Mr. Kilburn addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. He indicated that he believes that children have the right to not see books that he considers inappropriate. He also indicated that he feels the library selection process should be investigated.

Juliet Penna: Ms. Pena addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations and indicated that she believes libraries should allow professional librarians to choose available materials and that censorship should not be taking place in the library.

Rececca Turner: Ms. Turner addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that she believes that not every book is meant for every reader and asserted that removing materials is a slippery slope.

Brittany Kuykendall: Ms. Kuykendall addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She asserted her belief that materials with porn and bad language should not be in the library, indicated that monitoring children is impossible when children can quickly grab an item off a shelf.

Brittany Fowler: Ms. Fowler addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that the library should be a place for everyone, not just a specific group. She also asked that concerned citizens focus on adding to the community rather than taking items away.

Alison Ransen: Ms. Ransen addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She gave an anecdote regarding a transgender coworker and indicated that it is her belief that parents are responsible for monitoring their children's reading material.

Eunice Lehmacher: Ms. Lehmacher addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that it is her belief that young adult books should remain available in the young adult section, and specifically mentioned the book *All Boys Aren't Blue*.

Holley Ulbrich: Ms. Ulbrich addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. She indicated that, as the co-chair of the League of Women Voters, she believes that libraries should be supporting democracy and a diverse society, asserting that the library should not be enforcing one world view by removing items.

Karl Dieter: Mr. Dieter addressed the board regarding book reconsiderations. He asserted that he believes no material should be banned or censored and indicated that he believes everyone has the right to censor themselves but not to censor others.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Miller stated that in the summary of public comment from the last board meeting, Mr. Nelson had addressed a serious addiction and she wanted it to be mentioned in the minutes. Ms. Miller stated that Mr. Nelson had a serious addiction that stemmed from early exposure to pornography. Ms. Osborn stated that Mr. Nelson stated in his comments that he was not introduced to pornography at the library. Ms. Osborn stated that it would be added to the minutes that Mr. Nelson's public comment stated that he had an addiction to pornography, but it did not stem from materials that he came across at the public library.

Mr. Parton stated that the minutes need to be more detailed to enable the board to go back and look and let the public know what happened in the meetings.

Mr. Wheeler suggested that we ask the speakers to give the board copies of their comments to be included with the minutes.

Ms. Osborn asked for a motion to approve the minutes with corrections for the March 21st Board Meeting. Mr. Wheeler made a motion. The motion was seconded with no discussion. The minutes were approved with Mr. Parton and Ms. Pinkerton not in favor of accepting the minutes due to them not being detailed enough.

Ms. Osborn moved on to approval of the Budget Committee meeting minutes.
Ms. Pinkerton asked for clarification on the Budget Committee meeting. The Director explained that the meeting was with current Budget Committee members and Mr. Wheeler, as Board Treasurer to discuss the budget process, roles on responsibilities related to the Budget Committee and the board Treasurer. The Director further explained that she communicated in that meeting that it would be helpful if there were more clarity on everyone's role in the budget process. Ms. Miller asked if there were job descriptions for all of the people involved in the budget process.

Lori explained that the budget committee in the past had met with the county Administrator and Ralph Guarino, and we just need more clarity and more transparency with the county than what we currently have. The Director stated that whoever is on the Budget Committee in the future could look at things like roles and responsibilities, millage and the history of the millage, and if the Library System should be receiving interest on the reserve fund or not.

Mr. Parton stated that last year the board worked closely on a budget schedule as a framework and for completing the budget process each year. Ms. Osborn stated that we wanted to continue that.

Mr. Wheeler stated that listening to the county council meetings it is brought up continuously what the legal position and role of the board is. Mr. Wheeler stated that the board needed to get clarification once and for all.

Ms. Miller asked if the roles could be addressed in a job description.
Ms. Obsorn explained that the board needed clarification on how they worked in conjunction with the county staff and council. Ms. Miller asked if it would be helpful to get a job description for the County Administrator.

Ms. Miller questioned why in the county budget online there is no budget for the library for the last 5 years. Ms. Osborn explained that at the last County Council Meeting dashes were put in the budget because Council was waiting to meet with the Library Board.

Lori asked for a motion to approve the Budget Meeting Minutes.
Mr. Parton moved to approve the minutes of the Budget Committee meeting. Ms. Culley seconded. The minutes were approved.

Library Director's Report

Director Howard talked about some of the programming lined up this Summer for Adults at the library including Craig Johnson the author of the Longmire series. She also provided statistics for United Way of Pickens County's Free File program at the library this year. She provided the Library Board updates on the Hampton Library completion project as well as communication on the County's Compensation study. She reminded the Board about early voting at the Hampton Memorial Library. The Director also asked the Board, in order to provide clarity to the public, if the list of library materials currently being reconsidered could be published on the library's website.

Ms. Osborn and Mr. Wheeler agreed that having that information available to the public would be a good thing. Ms. Culley stated that she supported providing that transparency for the public. Ms. Culley stated that she gets a lot of questions about books on the reconsideration list from people in the community and she has not given the list of books because she was not sure if that information needed to be formally requested. Director Howard communicated that no information would be given about the people who had filed the reconsiderations, just the information about the books. Ms. Pinkerton stated that having the information available would also help the public to know which books were being discussed so that they did not file repeat reconsideration forms. Ms. Culley agreed. Ms. Miller stated that she would like it to show where the books are in the process of reconsideration because some of the books had been in the process for months. Ms. Osborn stated that she would like the location and age groups to be explained along with the list of books.

Ms. Osborn made a motion to publish the list of books being reconsidered on the library website. Seconded by Ms. Pinkerton. There was discussion by Ms. Miller and Ms. Pinkerton about also publishing a timeline on when items would be reviewed. Ms. Osborn stated that it would be hard to commit to a timeline of books to be reviewed because there might be other pertinent items that the Library Board needed to take up at meetings. Ms. Pinkerton and Ms. Osborn discussed limiting time for public comment at meetings. Ms. Culley stated it was a tough decision, because the community knows when it is stated on the agenda that the board will be discussing books, and the public would like the opportunity to comment at those meetings. The Director stated that the current policy allowed whoever was presiding as the Chair of the meeting the option of extending the time for public comment. The Director explained that the Board would need to change the policy to handle the extension of public comment differently. Ms. Culley commented that she was in favor of getting business done and did not want to impede that in any way.

Ms. Osborn asked the Board if they would like to vote to change the public comment policy. Director Howard proposed that they could take that up as part of their Public Comment Policy discussion at the next meeting since they had already expressed interest in discussing that policy further.

Mr. Parton made a motion to put the list of reconsidered materials on the website. Ms. Culley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Wheeler asked that there be a footnote to explain location abbreviations so that the public understood the classifications.

The Director provided the statistical report for the library explaining that outreach events had dropped a little due to the rescheduling of a few larger outreach events from the 3rd quarter to the 4th quarter. The numbers for these events would be calculated as part of the 4th quarter statistics due to the dates of the events moving from March to April. Youth Services Outreach numbers were affected by staff vacancies.

Ms. Howard concluded her Director's report.

Ms. Osborn commented that she was glad that Kate included in her report that the Library of Things items were purchased with a grant. Ms, Osborn stated that she hears people complain that those items are paid for with local tax dollars and they are not. The Fishing Poles available for checkout, so that a family can afford to take their kids fishing were supplied by DNR. She stated that people needed to be aware of that because it is brought up at council meetings. The Director added that those items were paid for using grants, lottery funding, and The Friends of the Library support organization.

Planning and Finance Committee – Financial Report

Director Howard presented the MUNIS Financial Report to the Board along with a new style of report suggested by the State Library Director at a previous Board training session. The Director explained that the first page of the report was Library Fund Revenue for FY24. Ms. Osborn suggested that the report be dated. The Director explained how the library system's expenses were grouped in the new report. The Director explained there was money taken from Staff expenses and transferred into the Building Maintenance account as a result of that account being lowered to $15,000 from $75,000 this fiscal year.

SC Laws regarding Library Funding

The Director provided the Board with a copy of the State Laws regarding libraries and Library funding. She also provided an email from Dale Looper to the former library Director dated 10/23/07 stating that Library Revenue was kept in a separate account and interest was allocated to that balance based upon the prevailing interest rate. The Director stated that she did not know when the library fund and interest started being treated differently or why.
Ms. Miller stated that she thinks the problem with the SC Law regarding "money earned" is the word "shall".

Foundation Report

The Director supplied the foundation report as supplied by the bank.

Ms. Osborn called for a 2 minute recess at 8:34

Ms. Osborn called the meeting back to order at 8:41

New Business – Library Board Officer Appointments

The Director reminded the Board of the nominations from the previous Board meeting.
Lori Osborn- Chair, Susan Childers – Vice Chair, Karen Culley – Secretary, Hap Wheeler – Treasurer.

Ms. Osborn stated that the Board would vote on the slate of officers unless anyone had an objection.

Mr. Parton wanted clarification on whether the Board had voted officers in at the last Library Board meeting. Ms. Culley also stated that she thought we had already voted. The Director explained that as stated in the Bylaws, the Board votes on nominees at the March meeting and Officers at the May meeting.

Ms. Pinkerton wanted clarification on whether the board could have nominated more than one person for each position. Director Howard reviewed the minutes to ensure the Board had only voted on nominations. Only votes on nominations were taken at the March meeting. Ms. Pinkerton asked if nominations were still open. The Director stated if the Board wanted to reopen nominations, they could but the vote on the nominations had already been taken at the previous meeting.

Mr. Parton said Ms. Pinkerton expressed interest in shadowing the Chair and Vice-Chair because she wants to be involved in board leadership. Mr. Parton stated that the nomination process went very fast. Ms. Osborn asked Mr. Parton if he would like to nominate someone else. Ms. Pinkerton answered no.

Director Howard suggested that if the definition and responsibilities of each role was not outlined in the Library Board of Trustees Bylaws that could be added.

Ms. Culley asked Mr. Parton if he wanted to open up the nomination process again.
Mr. Parton stated that he did not want to open up the nomination process, it just went by fast.

Ms. Oborn asked for a vote of all in favor of voting in the current slate of officers as nominated. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Osborn moved on to committee appointments for the Foundation Committee, Finance, and Renovation Projects. Ms. Osborn reiterated that Ms. Pinkerton wanted to serve on all committees.

Committee Assignments are as follows:
Finance (Budget) Committee – Mr. Wheeler, Ms. Osborn, Ms. Pinkerton, Ms. Childers
Renovation (Hampton Completion) Committee – Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Ms. Osborn, Ms. Miller, Mr. Wheeler
Foundation Committee – Ms. Culley, Ms. Pinkerton, Ms. Osborn

Ms. Miller stated that at the last meeting there was a confrontation in the parking lot where people were praying and were confronted by someone and had to call the Liberty Police. Considering that, she would like to suggest that every Library Board meeting be started with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Danny Seconded Ms. Miller's recommendation.

Ms. Culley asked if the county had any rules about that. Ms. Osborn and Mr. Wheeler stated that the County Council does recite the Pledge of Allegiance with a prayer. Ms. Miller stated that the School District Board does as well. Mr. Wheeler stated that he had a continuing concern about separation of church and state. He said that it seemed to be aggregated and violated in a lot of forums. Mr. Wheeler stated that we needed to proceed carefully.

Ms. Culley requested more time to think about Ms. Millers suggestion before taking action.

Director Howard clarified that Ms. Miller was making a motion, due to it being stated as a suggestion. Ms. Miller confirmed that it was a motion, with Mr. Parton's second.
Ms. Osborn understood Ms. Culley's request as a motion to table. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion to table the discussion until the next meeting. The vote was tabled.

Ms. Osborn asked if there was any other New Business that needed to be discussed.
Mr. Parton made a motion to have the Library Board Meetings at the Pickens County Administration Building inside the room where the County Council holds the regular Council meetings. Mr. Parton stated that having the meetings in that venue would mean that the meetings would be recorded and livestreamed so that the community could watch. He stated that with the discussions the board was currently having, video of the meetings would help the Board Clerk record the meeting minutes. Mr. Parton said that he had touched base with Councilman Alex Saitta and Mr. Saitta said he did not see any reason why the Library Board would not be able to use the room if the Library Board voted to do so and the Library Board Chair asked Mr. Roper.

Ms. Osborn clarified that the entire Council had not given permission, if was just Councilman Saitta. Ms. Osborn stated that she would like to check with the County Administrator before voting on the issue to make sure that we would be able to use the room and the video equipment.

Ms. Culley stated that she was not sure how fair it was to everyone in the county to meet at one location within the county for every meeting. She stated that her understanding was that spreading out the meetings at multiple library locations was to make it more convenient for everyone. Ms. Culley asked if it was a possibility to livestream the meetings from the libraries. The Director stated that it was a possibility, but it would require additional staffing and equipment to make sure everyone had a microphone and could be heard. Ms. Culley stated that if livestreaming is one of the significant concerns we could potentially do that at the library locations. Ms. Osborn stated that she liked meeting at all of the libraries because she thought it showed the library staff that the Library Board is interested in them. She liked the fact that the board could talk to the library staff and make themselves known. Mr. Parton stated that while that is true, the ones that the library board represents are the community. Mr. Parton reiterated the importance of communicating with the community and making it easier for them to access the meetings.
Mr. Parton amended his motion to have the Library Board Chair (Ms. Osborn) check with Mr. Roper to see if meeting at the Administration building was possible. Mr. Parton stated that after they had an answer from Mr. Roper, they could bring the motion back up at the next meeting for a vote. Ms. Osborn stated that she would check with Mr. Roper. Ms. Miller stated that it did not have to be permanent, it could be just while we are having so much community response.

Ms. Pinkerton seconded Mr. Parton's motion. Ms. Osborn asked for discussion on the motion.

Ms. Culley asked if it would be possible that when the board met at the Pickens branch maybe those meetings could be held at the Administration building.
Mr. Wheeler asked how many meetings were currently scheduled. Ms. Howard stated that the regular meetings were scheduled monthly through the end of the year (December). Mr. Wheeler stated that he would hate to reschedule all of the meetings at this point since the meeting schedule and locations were public information. The Library Director stated that she would investigate if it was possible with staffing and equipment if the library could take on streaming the meetings and investigate the possibility of having a local company come in and stream the meetings for them. Ms. Osborn stated that we would check on all of that and bring it back for a vote at the next meeting. Everyone was in favor.

Old Business

The Library Director stated that she had just received an email from the Administrator that Council would like for the Library Board to present the Library Budget on May 28th at a Budget Session.

Mr. Wheeler stated that the Finance committee would need to meet soon to prepare for the Council presentation. Ms. Osborn stated that the Director would set up a meeting for the Finance committee to meet and discuss the Council presentation.

Other Discussion

Director Howard stated that she had included information in the Board's Budget packet about Proviso 27.1. The SC Senate attached the proviso to public libraries in SC that received State Aid funds. The proviso states *"Prior to receiving any of these funds, libraries must certify to the State Library that their county libraries do not offer any books or materials that appeal to the prurient interest of children under the age of seventeen, in children's, youth, or teen book sections of libraries and are only made available with explicit parental consent."* (Kimbrell, Garrett, Rice)

The concern for libraries is that the proviso is vague, it removes local control from legislatively created Library Boards; and is unnecessary because county libraries already have existing policies and procedures for patrons to express their concerns about materials.

There is no information how the certification process will take place, what the consequences are, as well as no specific directives on how to abide by the regulation.

Mr. Wheeler brought forward that there seemed to be a lack of communication between the County Administrator, the Director, and the Library Board, he suggested that the Budget/Finance committee recommend a procedure by which we could engage with the administrators without engaging in what might be perceived as lobbying or politics. Mr. Wheeler stated that the Library Board must have a way that they can communicate with the County staff and Council in the budget process, so that we can understand things like the interest on library funding. Mr. Wheeler understood that in the past when the Board tried to get answers to certain questions they were passed to different departments and would end up going in circles with no answers. Ms. Osborn stated that was correct.

Mr. Wheeler also presented ideas on book reconsideration and collection development. He stated that there was an intensification of scrutiny by county council and other governing bodies on the issue. He stated in response to that, and as a preemptive measure, the Board should seriously consider procedural and policy issues regarding the inclusion and assignment of books. He stated that we needed to have a study session on this issue because he didn't think the board had a firm grip on the issues and the board needed to address the concerns of the public on both sides of the issue. Mr. Wheeler suggested that the Library Board members submit their thoughts in writing to the Board as a whole, and the Library Director. Mr. Wheeler gave examples of what the board members might submit their thoughts on such as: Criteria for obtaining books, Criteria for placement of books within sections of the library, age ranges, dissemination of information about book content, feasible control of access to sections of the library is it seems necessary, additional opportunities for parental oversight, procedures regarding reconsideration requests, criteria for submitting or accepting reconsideration requests. Mr. Wheeler stated the example of coming up with criteria that would eliminate a reconsideration request before the process begins because the request does not fit within certain criteria established by the board. In doing this we could look at sources like our own policies, practices recommended by professional library organizations, State and Federal case law, actions that have been taken in other counties. Mr. Wheeler stated that Ms. Childers had sent information to the Board on actions libraries in other counties were taking. Mr. Wheeler stated that comments made on reconsideration requests or during the Public Comment section of meetings were relevant sources of information. Mr. Wheeler stated that the goals were to balance Free Speech, with the principles of inclusive library offerings with expressed concern for public welfare. He also hoped that the Library Board could streamline the Reconsideration Request policy and eliminate the need for many of them, reducing the time and effort required by everyone to engage in repetitious debates. He also would like to generate some level of consistency from decision to decision and produce an environment where public comment can be more focused. If the public knows more about the rules and how the Board goes about the process, then they can focus their comments more on those rather than hearing the same general comments. Mr. Wheeler stated that another goal would be to enhance trust between the libraries, the Board, and the public. Mr. Wheeler stated that once we get these policies and procedures hammered out, we could present them to the public and request public commentary at a regular board meeting or a special forum. Mr. Wheeler stated that this sounded like a lot, but the board needed to start the process because his perception was, we are just revolving around in the milieu and we are not making progress. He asked that the board members think about procedural and policy issues and think about putting them in writing and sending them to the board, and the board looks at all of them and we start from there.

After Mr. Wheeler's suggestion, Mr. Parton stated that he liked that approach because it keeps the Board "in the know" as far as with the community. Mr. Parton stated that right now he just knows that we get books, and the board has no say so. Mr. Parton stated that Mr. Wheeler's suggestion would help with the process of the selection of books. Ms. Howard reminded Mr. Parton that creating the Policy that governed collection development was the board's "say so" in the selection of books.

Mr. Wheeler stated that he was deeply respectful of public input that the board received and the time that the public put into their statements and coming before the board. He stated that most of the people who speak are articulate and clear in sharing their points of view and that is part of the process in reviewing the policies and procedures – to incorporate those points of view into the board's discussions into the criteria that they establish. Ms. Culley stated that she thought this was great and she was happy to provide her thoughts.

Ms. Osborn called for any further discussion before adjourning. There was no other discussion. Ms. Osborn called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wheeler made a motion. Mr. Parton seconded the motion. Everyone was in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:30