



PICKENS COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
6:00 PM November 17, 2022
Central-Clemson Library, Central

IN ATTENDANCE - BOARD: Ms. Susan Childers, Chair
Ms. Kristen Nebesky Lawson
Ms. Lori Osborn
Ms. Karen Culley

EX OFFICIO: Ms. Stephanie Howard, Library Director
STAFF: Stacey Roberson, Executive Assistant

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a notice of the meeting was sent to newspapers and a copy of the Board Agenda was sent to the Presidents of all Friends Groups.

Ms. Childers called the meeting to order at 6:12PM

Minutes from the September 22nd meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Patrons, who are reciprocal borrowers, presented to the Board their concerns about the book entitled Let's Talk About It. The patrons felt that this book posed a danger for kids to be preyed upon, as well as a danger for adults to use the book to learn to prey upon children. The patrons explained that their library system in Oconee County removed the book for that reason and requested to have the book removed from the Pickens County Library System. The patrons previously filled out a Reconsideration form and the book was moved from the Teen section to the Adult Non-Fiction section after review by the Director. The Board decided to table any vote on removing the book until each of the members have had a chance to read the book so they can make an informed decision.

KEN ROPER'S REPORT –

Ken Roper, County Administrator, presented the County's Budget Process to the Board. He stated that the Council has three readings and one public hearing. The county then proceeds with work sessions and the formal budget packet is presented in June. Mr. Roper reported that the revenue projection is used to build the budget. Mr. Roper stated that the Board needs to show more effort to the Council since the Council thinks the Library Board is not involved in the process and is inactive. Mr. Roper suggested that the Budget Committee schedule a meeting with him in March to discuss the budget and any questions that may arise.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT –

Pickens County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Ms. Howard reported on the statistical report for FY22 Yearly Totals and Quarter 1 of FY23. The statistics for most items show an increase. The Director also stated that the increase is expected to continue in many avenues due to the new apartment buildings by the library that are close to completion. The Director also reported that she and Mary Frances Shelato, Branch Manager of the Sarlin library, completed a 6-week leadership training program through Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG).

PLANNING AND FINANCE –

Ms. Howard presented the Finance Report for review. The Director also stated that we would need to submit the amendment to the budget to council to account for the COLA increase of 5% that council approved after budgets were submitted.

FOUNDATION REPORT –

The foundation report was presented for review. Stephanie Howard informed the Board that Lucas Durham, who completed the military park, has been chosen to complete the Mary Oates Gregorie Park. Ms. Howard requested \$4,000 from the Foundation to cover the cost of the grading, curb cut, and wheelchair access ramp. The Board voted unanimously to approve the funds requested.

NEW BUSINESS –

The Director presented the proposed 2023 PCLS Holiday Schedule and the 2023 Library Board Meeting Schedule for the Board members to review and vote on. The Board unanimously voted to approve both the 2023 PCLS Holiday Schedule and the 2023 Library Board Meeting Schedule.

The Director presented a draft of our Annual Report, designed by our publicist, Jennifer Bryan for the Board's review. Karen Culley suggested that there be a section added to the report to reflect the value added by volunteer hours, equating the number of hours volunteers worked with a monetary value.

The Director reported that the Budget Committee met and discussed the budget for FY24 and some of the priorities for the library. One of the priorities the Budget Committee decided on is to move 5 staff members from Library Staff to Branch Assistant, with their pay to increase accordingly. The Director also stated that the Board will need to decide whether to include in the budget the previous positions that were believed to have been approved by council.

DISCUSSION –

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be at 6:00 PM on Thursday, January 19, 2022, in Easley.

Minutes prepared by Stacey Roberson, Executive Assistant.