



PICKENS COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
6:00 PM September 16th, 2021
Village Library, Pickens

IN ATTENDANCE - BOARD: Mr. Dennis Latham, Chairman
Ms. Susan Childers
Ms. Kathleen Campbell
Ms. Karen Culley
Ms. Kristen Nebesky Lawson

EX OFFICIO:
STAFF: Ms. Stephanie Howard, Library Director

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.

Mr. Latham called the meeting to order at 6:01PM.

Board member Kathleen Campbell asked for a revision of the minutes from the July 15th, 2021 meeting minutes to state she did not vote to move ahead on the expansion project at this time. Ms. Howard added that the last vote was not an official vote but a general consensus on how the project was moving forward. However, a statement will be made in the minutes to reflect Ms. Campbell's concern. Minutes were approved with revision.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

None. Johnelle Raines dropped off a packet of petitions related to R rated moving showing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT –

The library system is now back to its original operations except for a few children's programs being delayed due to close-contact activities. The library system is not yet seeing the program numbers returning to normal, however, there is an increase in room reservations. PCLS received the \$30,000 grant from IMLS and the State Library for digital archive lab equipment. The equipment is being ordered so that the library can start digitizing historical collections in the county to get them on a database which will allow patrons to access them from any internet source. The library system has updated its statistical spreadsheets to reflect the changes made by the State Library requirements. PCLS has partnered with Fiction Addiction to host an author event at the Easley Library in the expansion space in November. The author PCLS will host is Orson Scott Card, who is a popular science fiction author, best know for his novel *Ender's Game*. It will be a ticketed event, tickets will be purchased through Fiction Addiction, and patrons who purchase a ticket will receive a copy of his new book. The expected attendance will be around 150 patrons. The tentative date for this event will be on November 6th. The library is also hoping to partner with Clemson University and Poor Richards for another author event in November.

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PLANNING AND FINANCE -

The director will be meeting with the county CFO to discuss a discrepancy in the training budget and an adjustment that needs to be made due to the library receiving a per capita increase from the state. The increase went from \$2.00 to \$2.25 in per capita funding. Building maintenance found a large invoice that was supposed to have been paid in the last fiscal year but will have to be taken out of this year's budget because the books were already closed by the time it was found.

FOUNDATION REPORT –

The foundation report was presented for review.

OLD BUSINESS –

Fine Free Model: The library director gave an update on how the new Fine Free Model is working for the library. Ms. Howard stated that the library staff have received some concerns from a few patrons about having to wait longer for books to be returned. Ms. Howard assured the board that the library is prepared to make sure patrons receive their reserved books. One of the options include maintaining and possibly expanding our current book lease program with Baker and Taylor. Overall, the response has been good, and patrons are excited about it. Note: Board member Kathleen Campbell, apologized for her vote of approval to move forward with the Fine Free Model. She said she still had questions about the presentation and regrets her vote to move forward with the Fine Free model.

NEW BUSINESS –

Board Chairman, Dennis Latham signed the Annual State Funding document. This document must be signed each year with a Library Board quorum present.

Discussion of Expansion Space Policy: Library administration staff have been working on a framework for a policy regarding how the spaces will be used and to make sure their expectations were aligned with the board's expectations. Ms. Howard presented keeping part of the current policy that is used for the meeting rooms which does not allow private social events (such as birthday parties, showers, and wedding receptions). Access for private events may be added in the future, but we will evaluate room reservation of the spaces first. The library will require a rental fee to use the renovated rooms; all other original meeting rooms would remain free (Easley meeting room on main level and branch meeting rooms). The library would refer to the county's alcohol policy and procedure regarding alcohol use at county facilities.

The Library Board voted to bring the expansion space proposal before the County Council at the September Committee of the Whole meeting. Board member Kathleen Campbell voted against bringing to proposal to council citing her concerns about use of a large portion of the reserve budget for one project.

DISCUSSION –

Board Member Kathleen Campbell initiated a discussion about showing R rated movies at the library. Ms. Howard explained that the films chosen are based on availability from a wide range of genres. Films are not chosen based on ratings; however, the ratings are made available so that patrons are able to make the decision of whether they would like to attend the film. Ms. Howard also explained that the image of the library is a place for all ideas even if they are controversial. The board members decided to review the policy at the next board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be at 6:00 PM on Thursday, November 18th, 2021, in Central-Clemson.

Minutes prepared by Rebekah Henson, Executive Assistant.