

Rockbridge Regional Library System
Board of Trustees Meeting – October 20, 2020

Virtual Meeting Statement:

Good morning, everyone. I am Julie Goyette, Director of Rockbridge Regional Library System.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rockbridge Regional Library Board of Trustees is taking actions to minimize attendance at public meetings. In accordance with the Virginia Code Sec. 15.2-1413 allowing any meeting which requires the presence of members of a Public Entity such as the Board of Trustees may be held through real time electronic means without a quorum physically present in one location.

A notice of this meeting was posted to the calendar on the library website and on social media. This meeting is accessible by phone using GoToMeeting.

We ask that speakers identify themselves when speaking.

All members of the Board of Trustees who arrive or leave the meeting must verbally note their attendance.

Are there any questions from the Board of Trustees about the process for holding this meeting?

There were no questions asked by the Board.

Attending the meeting:

Library Director Julie Goyette
Chair Bruce McWilliams
Vice Chair Alexandra Brown
Treasurer Carl Behrens
Deputy Treasurer Tom Lominac
Parliamentarian Joe Cailles
Secretary Beverly Slaydon
Board member Gail Heslep
Board member Doug Horan
Board member McKinley Williams
Board member Jessica Whipple
Board member Tom Goodale
Board member Thomas Bell
Foundation President Sally Wiant

A quorum of the board does exist.

Mr. Chair please proceed.

Mr. McWilliams asked for any questions regarding the board packet for this meeting. There were no questions.

The minutes of the September 22, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

Discussion & Review

Buena Vista Library/St. John's United Methodist Church follow-up

Mrs. Goyette met with Rev. Dr. Louis Caddell, Pastor of United Methodist Church in Buena Vista, to discuss the delay in using the space offered to the Buena Vista Branch. The library is not sure when or if this will happen in the near future. Rev. Caddell and the church council understand the delay is a result of the pandemic. Mrs. Goyette asked trustees to let her know if there is anything that she can do in Buena Vista that she has not thought of.

Mrs. Goyette said it appears that the City of Buena Vista does not want the library to move. The City has put a new HVAC system into the library building. Mr. Bell announced the Corvid Relief Funds received by the city paid for the HVAC. Mr. Bell also told of a survey conducted by the City of Buena Vista asking citizens what they would like to see happen in downtown Buena Vista. Mr. McWilliams suggested the board needed to talk more about funding for services in Buena Vista.

Foundation Board

Mr. McWilliams asked Ms. Wiant if she would like to give an update on the Foundation Board's work. She reported:

- Tom Camden was welcomed as a Foundation Director in August. Mr. Camden works at Washington and Lee University, Leyburn Library, as Head of Special Collections and Archives. He is a resident of Glasgow.
- The Foundation Board of Directors is in the process of interviewing candidates for the position of financial advisor. Two candidates were interviewed last week and two more will be interviewed this week. The Foundation will be taking over the annual fund raising appeal letter in November.

Mr. McWilliams thanked Ms. Wiant for her work in renewing the Foundation Board's energy.

Budget Process

Mrs. Goyette is completing the first draft of the budget to be presented to the Finance Committee at their next meeting later this month. In November the board will review and discuss the budget and in December it will be voted on for approval. It will then go to the governing localities for review and approval. Board members are asked to start attending City Council or Board of Supervisors meetings for their localities, in order to request full funding for the Rockbridge Regional Library System. This is very important and Mrs. Goyette will be happy to work with board members on talking points for these meetings. Pastor Cailles asked Mrs. Goyette to alert the board of the dates when the localities meet. Mrs. Goyette will send out notices of these meetings.

Mrs. Goyette asked to Board to consider dropping fines at this time. Other libraries are doing this and it seems like a good time to offer this to patrons. She would like this to be permanent but more discussion will take place in the future. This is something the board would have to get approval from the governing localities to do, since it would be a small reduction in revenue.

Upcoming trustees vacancies

Mr. Horan and Mr. McWilliams will be coming off the board on June 30, 2021. Mr. McWilliams has been talking with a Bath resident interested in serving on the board as his replacement. He has also

talked to Anna Bohacs as a replacement for Brandea Reed who recently resigned due to her husband's relocation to South Carolina. Mrs. Goyette has spoken with Ms. Bohacs and answered her questions she had about serving on the Board. Mrs. Bohacs' name will be submitted to the Bath Board of Supervisors for approval at their next meeting.

Action items

Policy Updates

Mr. Horan reviewed the three policies being presented to the board for approval by the Policy Committee:

- Reference
- Capitalization
- Evaluation of Library Director
 - If compensation is discussed the board must come out of closed session to vote
 - Review will be timed better to budget process in order to be able to include any compensation changes to Director in a new budget

Mr. McWilliams announced that he, Ms. Brown, and Mr. Horan would be meeting to work on a time line for the Library Director Evaluation.

Mr. Horan made a motion the board approve the Reference Policy, Capitalization Policy, and Evaluation of Library Director being presented to the board by the Policy Committee. The board voted unanimously to approve the three policies.

Public Comments

No public attended.

Mr. McWilliams had to leave the meeting and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair, Ms. Brown.

Round Robin:

Mr. Goodale thanked everyone for their continued hard work during a difficult time.

Mr. Lominac echoed Mr. Goodale's comment.

Mr. Williams reminded board members his church is collecting children's books to donate to hospitals for sick children while they are hospitalized.

Mr. Horan asked about a gift for Ms. Kay as she is retiring after 17 years at the library. Mrs. Goyette answered this was being taken care of by Mrs. Slaydon.

Mrs. Heslep wanted to say she enjoyed seeing everyone and to stay safe.

Mr. Bell asked if we were still taking donations of gift books at the libraries. The library is not advertising this fact, but we are accepting gift books at all locations.

Ms. Brown asked about giving the children's books that are weeded to the drive at Mr. Williams' church. The books that are weeded are well used and usually in poor condition.

Next Meeting: November 17, 2020, 10 AM

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Slaydon, Recording Secretary