

Rockbridge Regional Library Board of Trustees
Board Meeting – January 27, 2022

Virtual Meeting Statement:

Good afternoon, everyone. I am Julie Goyette, Director of the of the 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 during 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:

Alexandra Brown, Chairman
Bob Kramer
Julie Goyette, Library Director
Beverly Slaydon, Secretary
Jessica Whipple, Vice Chairman
Tom Lominac, Deputy Treasurer
Joe Cailles, Parliamentarian
Tom Goodale
Gail Heslep
Thomas Bell
Carl Behrens, Treasurer
McKinley Williams
Bruce McWilliams, Foundation President

A quorum of the board does exist.

The agenda was set as presented.

The minutes of the November 18, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

Foundation Update

Mr. McWilliams, Foundation President, reported the Foundation fund raising letter has brought in \$68,575.75 to this date. Our goal is \$75,000.00. Mr. McWilliams challenged members if they have not contributed to please do so and to reach out to their friends to contribute. The Foundation Board will meet again on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

Mission Moment

Debi Ratliff, Adult Services System Manager spoke to the Board about Universal Class. This is an online learning product provided to the library through The Library of Virginia. The Library of Virginia pays to provide Universal Class at no cost to the RRLS. This is a great opportunity for our patrons to be able to take classes and receive certificates for completing a class. Staff have also taken advantage of these

classes.

Discussion

Mrs. Heslep has reached out by letter to the new owners of the property in Fairfield the library had looked at for a possible branch library. The new owners have not moved into the building and it is still vacant. The letter went out this week and she will keep the board updated with any information she learns.

Mrs. Goyette announced that the foot traffic has dropped in Glasgow for various reasons. Mrs. Goyette has spoken with Tom Camden, Associate Professor Head of Special Collections and Archives at W&L. Mr. Camden is a native of Rockbridge County and grew up in Glasgow. He serves on the Foundation Board and the Glasgow Town Council. Mrs. Goyette spoke to Mr. Camden about a local history center to be located in the Glasgow Library. There is room in Glasgow and it would free up some of our space in Lexington that houses local history. Glasgow Library would be a destination for local history and genealogy. Mr. Camden was very excited about the prospects for a local history center in Glasgow. He feels it is a great service to offer at the Glasgow Library and for the Glasgow community.

Mrs. Goyette will look into setting up the center in Glasgow. We have a former staff member who is a native to the area and would be a good fit for this job. The costs can be covered by unrestricted funds outside of the large bequest received by the library: the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan from the Small Business Administration in the amount of \$160,890 which has been forgiven, and \$95,496 from IRS for an employee retention credit. Expenses covered by the PPP Grant would more than cover any setup and staff costs for the center. Mrs. Goyette will keep the board updated as she learns more about this exciting opportunity for the library.

Mrs. Slaydon has been exploring the possibility of adding a glass enclosed room in the far right back corner of headquarters in Lexington to be used for Board meetings and other adult meetings. This would free up the Piovano Room to be used for children's programs especially with the need to spread out as our attendance increases.

The small conference room is now being used as a Passport Acceptance Agency Center as the number of appointments continues to increase. Our budget for passport revenue for the year is \$7,500. On December 31, 2021, we exceeded it by \$1,539.80 and we continue to exceed the budget each week as patrons and visitors make plans to travel.

Mrs. Goyette reported that the proposed budget for FY 2023 has been delivered to all government localities. Ms. Brown asked if this was the time for trustees to go and speak to their local government boards. Ms. Brown said she would be glad to take charge of letting trustees know the dates of local government meetings so they could attend and speak about the library. Mrs. Goyette stated that Lexington and Buena Vista both meet on the first and third Thursdays each month, Rockbridge County meets on the second and fourth Mondays each month, and Bath County meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

Action Items

No actions items

Public Comment

No public in attendance

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 24, 2022, at 4:15 pm in the Piovano Room in Lexington.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Beverly Slaydon, Secretary