

Rockbridge Regional Library System  
Board of Trustees Called Meeting – October 3, 2022  
Piovano Room  
5:00 PM

The Board of Trustees met in the Piovano Room on October 3, 2022.

Members present included Alexandra Brown, Tom Goodale, Bob Kramer, McKinley Williams, Melanie Forde, Margaret Kirkby, Jessica Whipple, and Gail Heslep. Staff members present were Julie Goyette, Library Director, and Beverly Slaydon, Recording Secretary.

Ms. Brown, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Purpose of meeting is to discuss the packet from Will Harris, Goshen Landlord, addressed to Spencer Suter, Rockbridge County Administrator, and delivered to Mrs. Goyette on Thursday, September 29, just prior to the Board of Trustees' meeting.

Mrs. Goyette received a phone call from Steve Bickley, Goshen Town Council member, and Tom McCraw, Goshen Mayor, on Friday afternoon, September 30. They were concerned with the statement made by Town Council member Sandra Shaffer who stated she was representing three other members of Goshen Town Council, Lisa Landrum, Debbie Bowden and Chris Robertson. Mr. Harris contacted Mr. Bickley and Mr. McCraw after the Board meeting on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and stated he was thrown under the bus by them and now he may not sell the town the property they wanted for the community center if the library didn't stay in the current building. Mrs. Goyette asked if they were saying that they wanted us to stay in the building so Mr. Harris would sell them the property they wanted for a community building. Their reply was yes. Mrs. Goyette said she would take their statement to the board of trustees.

The following were discussed by the Board to be included in a written statement:

- Ms. Brown felt that a statement addressing Mr. Harris' letter is needed. Point by point.
- Ms. Forde commented "judge future performance on past behavior"
- Mr. Kramer commented we are doing this for the greater good
- Mr. Bell commented the building is not safe
- There was concern for health of everyone who goes into building
- The question was asked, "Why didn't Mr. Harris deliver his packet to us instead of the county administrator?"
- NOT the greater good to spend Roadcap fund on a building owned by someone else
- The greater good is to spend Roadcap in a safe and secure community center
- Why are we being pressured to take care of the pre-school?
- Ms. Kirkby asked why does the pre-school want to be with us? – we are not their gatekeeper - always be clear the library is a separate entity
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Mr. Goodale made a motion that the library make October 31, 2022 our last day in the building instead of October 15, 2022 if Mrs. Goyette can get permission from Mr. Harris, Landlord. Mrs. Forde seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve this motion. Mrs. Goyette will contact Mr. Harris.

The Board of Trustees will stand by their decision to vacate the building as approved at the June 30, 2022 Board meeting.

Mrs. Goyette and Ms. Alexander were tasked with the writing of a statement to be made public on the library social media.

Mrs. Goyette attended a statewide Directors' meeting in Richmond on September 22 and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The annual audit for the Library System was completed on Friday, September 30, 2022 by Farmer, Cox and Robinson Auditing Firm. This is the same firm that is used by Rockbridge County and the City of Lexington. The final audit report should be back to us in January 2023.

Ms. Brown thanked Mrs. Goyette for her work and guidance through this difficult process.

Mrs. Goyette thanked the Board for their support.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 27, 2022, at 4:15 PM.

Meeting was adjourned 6:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Slaydon  
Recording Secretary