



Board of Trustees Meeting
April 24, 2025, 4:15 PM

Buena Vista Children's Library
St Johns UMC Education Building, 351 E 21st Street, Buena Vista

Present: Harper Donahoe, Sharyn Billings, Bob Kramer, Mary Jo Brinkley, Alexandra Brown, McKinley Williams, Melanie Forde, Tim Eldredge, Sherri Wheeler, Thomas Bell

Absent: Jessi Whipple

Call to Order, Approval of agenda

Harper Donahoe, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Melanie made a motion to approve the agenda. Sherri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Julie introduced Terry Ammons, who has applied to be a trustee representing Bath County.

Approval of the Minutes

Mary Jo made a motion to approve the February 27, 2025 minutes. McKinley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tim made a motion to approve the March 26, 2025 minutes. Alex Brown seconded the motion. Bob Kramer stated that he was at the meeting. The motion to approve the minutes as corrected passed unanimously.

Mission Moment

Milea Webb talked about Buena Vista Library programs. She shared information about the Chat and Craft program specifically. The library provides materials for participants who enjoy making the crafts. Some programs were on hold while Milea adjusted to her new position. The City of Buena Vista has been responsive to requests for repairs at the Magnolia location.

Public Comment

Board members read comments from the public comment cards. Public comment cards are available to patrons and visitors at each location and on the bookmobile. Hugh Henderson spoke to the board regarding his concerns over children's access to library materials.

Foundation Update

Tom Camden, Foundation President, informed the board that Foundation has not met since the previous board meeting.

Questions regarding board packet

Melanie asked about differences in the 2024 and 2025 question stats as reported in the system statistics. Julie explained the program that staff uses to record patron questions and stated that staff varies in the consistency in which they record questions.

Discussion and announcements

Julie reported on the meeting of the Policy Committee. She addressed the Nondiscrimination, Friends of RRLS, and Violence Prevention Policies. Alex asked how the library would define the term "violence." Thomas stated that he believed that it would be determined by the perception of the staff member



involved. Julie responded stating that each staff member could perceive actions differently and should act accordingly. She also shared that she has told staff that they are most important. They can walk away; leave the building, contact authorities and their supervisor.

Sharyn made a motion to approve the Nondiscrimination Policy. Melanie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sharyn made a motion to approve the Friends of RRLS Policy. Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sharyn made a motion to approve the Violence Prevention Policy. Melanie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Julie reviewed the financial reports shared in the board packet and explained why those reports were chosen for the board. If anyone on the board would like to see the information presented in a different way, Julie can create graphs, charts, etc. Alex asked that Julie call to the board's attention any major discrepancies on financial reports.

Harper reported on his visit to Matthews Specialty Vehicles to check on the progress of the bookmobile. He toured the facility and was able to see the bookmobile in process. He stated that Matthews plans to deliver the bookmobile in May. Julie informed the board about the wrap, which will be installed on the bookmobile prior to its delivery. Melanie asked about the disposition of the old bookmobile. Julie stated that it is currently for sale online.

Julie reported on Senator Kaine's meeting at the Montgomery-Floyd Library. The purpose of his visit was to listen to his constituents in order to report back when the session resumes. Those in attendance talked about the impacts of budget cuts on libraries. Senator Kaine informed those in attendance that activism is crucial to the budget process. Julie reported that library directors in the area decided to form a coalition to compile stories to share with Senator Kaine.

Harper and Julie reported on their visit with the Goshen Town Mayor and Vice Mayor to discuss their proposal for the Goshen Library. The mayor and vice mayor presented a plan to include the library in the Goshen Community Center. The mayor and vice mayor shared that the grant received by the Town of Goshen cannot be used for libraries. The plan would include the library contributing \$200,000 to the renovations and pay monthly rent. Before the library would be able to use the space, major renovations would be required.

Sharyn made a motion for Harper to draft and deliver a letter to the mayor and vice mayor declining their proposal. Alex seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Sharyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alex seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 5:10 PM.

The next meeting will be on May 22, 2025 at the Glasgow Library.