

Minutes of the
Rappahannock County Library Board of Trustees'
Meeting on August 23, 2023

1. *Call to Order*

Victoria Fortuna called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

2. *Confirmation of Quorum*

Library Board Members Present: Victoria Fortuna, Judy DeSarno, Maureen Harris, Randi Shumate, Debbie Knick, Bonnie Jewell, John Beardsley, Patti Peterson, Kit Johnston.

Staff present: Amanda Weakley, Library Director.

Members of the Public present: Ruth Welch, Friends of the Library (FOL)

3. *Approval of the Agenda*

Judy moved to approve the agenda. Patti seconded and the motion was approved.

4. *Disposition of the Minutes*

Judy moved to approve minutes from the July 27, 2023 meeting. Patti seconded and the motion was approved.

5. *Public Comment*

Ruth reported that FOL would be hosting an artist forum at 1pm on October 2; artists will bring their work and discuss it with each other. She also announced that the FOL annual meeting would be held on September 7.

6. *Report of the President*

Victoria reported that she changed the registered agent for the Library Support Foundation; she is the new agent. She also filed the foundation annual report and paid the annual registration fee. She has been trying to organize a meeting of the Foundation board but has not been successful yet.

7. Report of the Librarian

Amanda reported that over the past month she had attended a continuing education program, Introduction to Disability Inclusion and Awareness; a webinar on censorship with Lisa Varga; and the Region 6 Library Directors Meeting on August 18 at Massanutten Regional Library in Harrisonburg. She noted that the Summer Reading Programs for all ages had 135 youth registrants and 34 adult participants. 65 people attended a community event on August 2, which featured an ice cream truck provided by PATH Foundation and “Rocknoceros,” Washington’s Legendary Band for Kids (and their parents). She also spoke about the continuing art and wellness programs for seniors hosted by the library. She advised the board that they would be purging inactive library cards; the total number of library card holders might go down, but they would get a better idea of the number of active users.

8. Report of the Treasurer

Debbie provided copies of her report dated August 24, 2023. She noted that the year-end numbers for the fiscal year ending June 30 were still being audited.

9. Committee Reports

Personnel: No report

Expansion: John reported that he and Amanda had a zoom meeting with the expansion architect, Gil Entzminger, on August 10. They advised him that the board wanted to scale back the expansion, keep it simple, and concentrate on adding to the sides or back of the building. He asked Amanda what her priorities were; she mentioned a public meeting room for about 75; a teen space that might double as a flexible activity space; and a larger and more welcoming children’s area. Secondly, she talked about updating the restrooms, achieving ADA compliance; more shelf space for adult materials; and outdoor space. Gil asked and she confirmed that she would like some tutoring/study rooms and additional staff space. Gil said he would work up a couple options and present them to us for review; he would then work the one we preferred into a conceptual design. He reiterated his concern that if we cut too much from the program (and the budget), what we get might not be worth the cost and effort. Judy said that the ball was in our court to start thinking about funding the project.

Buildings and Grounds: Bonnie reported that Steve Cox of Soft Wash HydroClean Inc. cleaned the library exterior free of charge. The board expressed their appreciation and remarked on how good the building looked. Bonnie also reported on the repair of a cracked step at the entrance and the installation of a new thermostat.

Finance: No additional report

Policy: No report

10. *Old Business*

None

11. *New Business*

None

12. *Open discussion*

None

13. *Adjournment*

Judy moved that the meeting be adjourned, Patti seconded and the motion passed. unopposed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by John Beardsley, Secretary

Signed _____ Dated _____
President