

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 25 APRIL 2024

1. Victoria called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.
2. Confirmation of Quorum: In attendance were all members of the Board of Trustees: Victoria Fortuna, John Beardsley, Judy DeSarno, Randi Shumate, Maureen Harris, Patti Peterson, Kit Johnston, Bonnie Jewell (attending via Zoom), and Jen Cable. Also attending were Library Director Amanda Weakley, FOL President Ruth Welch, and Rappahannock News writer Ireland Hayes.
3. The meeting agenda was approved as presented.
4. The minutes of the 28 March 2024 meeting were approved as circulated by email.
5. FOL Report: Ruth Welch will work with Amanda to highlight the fact that donations to the FOL during “Give Local Piedmont” will help support the renovation/expansion of the library. The FOL Bylaws are being revised to accommodate the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board and the FOL.
6. Public Comment: None
7. Report of the President: Victoria will present a report on the library expansion/renovation to the County Board of Supervisors at their monthly meeting on June 3; it is not known whether the report will be scheduled for the 2pm session or the 7pm session. Our attorney, Sharon Pandek, was contacted regarding the restrictions in the Jamieson wills on use of their money willed to the library, i.e., “The remaining Residuary Estate to be divided ... and one-fourth to the Rappahannock County Library ... to be known as ‘The Mary Randolph Jamieson and James Jamieson Memorial Fund’ with the request that these funds be invested and held by the Trustees of said Library as part of the permanent funds of said library, who may from time to time act, only the income is to be used as may be determined to be in the best interest and advantage of said library, and the principal shall remain intact. My Executor shall have no responsibility to see that these funds are used as requested and my Executor shall be relieved of all obligation upon receipt of the designated funds by the Rappahannock County Library.” Pandek does not have expertise in estate law and may have a conflict of interest due to her work with the Board of Supervisors. She suggested that a colleague in Manassas be contacted regarding the Jamieson matter, and Victoria will do so.
8. Report of the Library Director: The library issued 27 new library cards in April; 99 people attended the Local Author’s Celebration on 13 April; a family-oriented magic show will be sponsored by the library on April 27; the library staff are getting ready for the children’s, teen’s, and adult’s summer reading programs.
9. Report of the Treasurer: None

10. Committee Reports:

Personnel: None

Expansion/Renovation: John Beardsley noted that Enteros had provided the Board with a proposal/bid for the balance of the design/construction services, which was circulated by email to all Board of Trustee members. It was agreed that this proposal/bid is premature and that we need to present information to the county Board of Supervisors first and we need to create a fundraising plan. Additional information needed from Enteros for presentation to the Board of Supervisors (scheduled for June 3) is (1) more details of interiors and finishes, including drawings; (2) renderings of the exterior of the proposed building; (3) renderings of the library access road and parking areas; and (4) an estimate of total costs for the construction (Note that at the Enteros presentation on 28 March it was estimated that construction costs are running \$500-\$600 per square foot and that the new plan presented comprises 9300 square feet.). The Board of Trustees authorized spending up to \$50,000 to obtain this information. With regard to financing the expansion/renovation, Victoria will organize a meeting before the next regular meeting of the Board to include current groups involved in financing, which are the Library Board, the Friends of the Library, and the Library Support Foundation.

Buildings and Grounds: The County Administrator is continuing to pursue insurance reimbursement for repair to our furnace.

Finance: Patti noted that the time is coming when an estimate should be made of the additional operating costs of an expanded library.

Policy: None

11. Old Business: Jen Cable had been appointed by the Board of Supervisors to be a new member of the Board of Trustees. Victoria nominated her to become an officer of the Board, specifically Secretary of the Library Board of Trustees. She was elected to this position by acclamation.

12. New Business: None

13. Open Discussion: None

14. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40pm.

Submitted by Maureen Harris

Victoria Fortuna, President

Date