

LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

September 13, 2018

The Library Board of the Buncombe County Public Libraries held a regular meeting on September 13, 2018, in the John Bridges Activity Room at Pack Memorial Library. Library Board Members present were Karen Dugas, Raymond Griffin, Ruth O'Donnell, Stefan Stackhouse, Barbara Weatherall, and Linda Wilkerson. Also present were Buncombe County staff members Jim Holland, Assistant County Manager; Georgianna Francis, Library Director; and Brandon Freeman, Buncombe County Staff Attorney.

Ms. Weatherall shared the article "Why Libraries Matter" with the Board.

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced the need for a Closed Session at the end of the meeting. He read the ethics reminder: *In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearance of conflict.*

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the August 9, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed. Ms. Weatherall moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

The minutes of the August 23 special meeting were reviewed. Ms. O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

Old Business:

Library Director Search Review and Update

Mr. Holland reviewed the interview process to date. The first part of the process was to review and select 22 of 72 candidates to interview by phone. Mr. Holland, Mr. Griffin, Ms. Wilkerson, and Tiffany Onocho conducted the phone interviews and narrowed that group to the top 8 candidates. The Board interviewed the 8 candidates over three days (August 22 – 24) and chose the top two candidates for a final round of interviews (September 6-7). A candidate has been selected, and final background checks are being conducted before an offer will be made. Because of the extended timeline for the search, Ms. Francis has agreed to extend her tenure for a month to allow for a smooth transition between Library Directors.

Legal Access to Trust Funds

Mr. Freeman stated that he hopes to have news regarding access to the Trust Funds at the next meeting.

New Business:

Ms. Francis reviewed Amanda Smaridge's resignation from the Library Board. The process to appoint a new member to represent District 2 until the end of Ms. Smaridge's term in March 2020 has begun. The Board discussed ways to reach out to the community to encourage a diverse pool of candidates for the Board opening.

Ms. Francis discussed preparation for the incoming Library Director and activities that library staff will do to provide information about staff and library issues. The Board expressed interest in holding a public

welcoming event to introduce the Director to the wider community. Additional discussion included having a discussion about the Board's focus for the next year as part of the next meeting.

Director's Report:

Ms. Francis received a gift from the Board in appreciation of her work with the Board. She thanked the Board for the gift and the opportunity to work with them.

Closed Session:

Ms. O'Donnell moved to go into closed session pursuant to NCG 143-318.11a(3) to discuss a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dugas moved to go into open session. The motion passed unanimously.

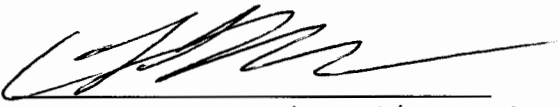
Board Discussion:

Mr. Holland reviewed the process once the applicant has accepted the position.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Mr. Stackhouse presented the motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

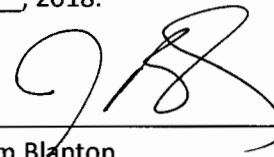
Minutes Read and approved this the _____ day of _____, 2018.



Raymond W. Griffin
Library Board Chair

LINDLEY C. GARNER

Acting



Jim Blanton
Library Director