

**Library Board Meeting
March 14, 2019**

The Library Board of the Buncombe County Public Library held a regular meeting on March 14, 2019 in the John Bridges Activity Room at Pack Memorial Library. Library Board Members present were Lindley Garner, Ray Griffin (Chair), Michael McCue, Ruth O'Donnell, Stefan Stackhouse and Barbara Weatherall. Also present were Jim Blanton, Library Director; Brandon Freeman, Buncombe County Staff Attorney.

Mr. Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. 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 January 10, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Michael McCue moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

Public Comment

No public comment

Old Business

Brandon Freeman took questions from the Board concerning Library Trust Funds. Discussions are ongoing for obtaining access to funds that reside with the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina. The Board is interested in accessing Trust resources to fund strategic planning efforts in the coming year. Mr. Freeman advised that when the funds are available, all requests from the Library Advisory Board would also need to be approved by the County Commissioners.

New Business

Mr. Griffin attended a public meeting for the East Asheville Library and suggested the Board write a thank you letter to the County Commissioners for funding the new East Asheville Library. Ms. O'Donnell made a motion stating that Mr. Griffin will draft the letter and share it with the Board members so they can review it. The motion passed.

Ms. Weatherall suggested that the Board become members of United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association (ALA). There was discussion that some Library branches may already be members of the ALA. Mr. Blanton will investigate and report to the Board on the status of ALA memberships.

Mr. Griffin reminded the Board that three Board members' terms expire in May. Ms. O'Donnell, Ms. Weatherall and Mr. Garner would all like to extend their terms. Mr. Blanton informed the Board that

the District 2 vacancy has been publicized. All candidates for vacancies and renewals will be recommended to the County Commissioners after review with the County Manager. The Commissioners will make the appointment. The Library Advisory Board will need to elect officers in May, and Mr. Griffin asked that officer elections be added to the agenda for May.

Mr. Garner and Ms. Weatherall asked if a representative from the Friends of the Library could meet with the Library Advisory Board. Ms. Weatherall moved that a Friends of the Library member be asked to meet with the Library Board and the motion passed.

Director's Report

Mr. Blanton is working with the County Performance Management team on the Library's Budget request for FY2019-2020. The focus of the budget is increasing staff and programming. The capital improvement projects will include the new East Asheville Library, pressure washing several library buildings and new gutters at the Fairview Library.

The work on the Enka-Candler meeting room expansion is moving forward. Mr. Blanton is meeting with the Asheville Parks and Recreation department about changes to the playground area at the new East Asheville Library. The groundbreaking for the East Asheville Library should be in late summer 2019. A new fire suppression system will be added to the North Carolina Room.

The date of the Library's Centennial celebration at Pack has been set for July 26.

Several board members asked to see financial reports and Library statistics. Mr. McCue led a discussion about how Library programs are publicized, and Mr. Stackhouse asked that Mr. Blanton look for opportunities to collaborate with local organizations. Mr. Griffin asked that Board members send all suggestions for community partnerships directly to Mr. Blanton.

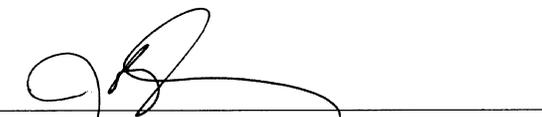
Jaime McDowell, Branch Manager of the Fairview Library, gave a report on the activities of the Fairview Library and their plans for a 20th anniversary celebration in November.

Board Discussion

There being no further business, Ms. O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

Minutes read and approved this the 4 day of June, 2019.


Ruth O'Donnell
Library Board Chair (acting)


Jim Blanton
Library Director