

**Library Board Meeting
May 9, 2019**

The Advisory Board of the Buncombe County Public Libraries held a regular meeting on May 9, 2019 in the John Bridges Activity Room at Pack Memorial Library. Library Board Members present were Michael McCue, Ruth O'Donnell (Acting Chair), Stefan Stackhouse, Barbara Weatherall, Linda Wilkerson. Also present were Jim Blanton, Library Director and Brandon Freeman, Buncombe County Staff Attorney.

Ms. O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. She 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 March 14, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Stackhouse moved to approve the minutes, Mr. McCue seconded. The motion passed.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Old Business

Jim Blanton gave a report on the ongoing pursuit of trust fund access.

Rachael Nygaard provided an overview of Buncombe County Service Foundation, the non-profit arm of Buncombe County.

Jim Blanton and a staff panel have identified three candidates for the District 2 Board vacancy. Chairman Newman will put them on the May 21 agenda for the Commissioners to decide who will fill the open seat. All Board members with expiring terms in 2019 have committed to second terms.

Erin Makara presented the plans for the Pack Library Centennial, which will be held Friday, July 26. Library tours, hands on activities for kids, historical displays and relay races will be included. Other Centennial programs throughout the rest of the year will be announced at a later date.

Ms. Weatherall made a motion that the Board invite Georgia Coleman of the Richland Public Library/Columbia, SC, to speak on the future of libraries and pay for hotel accommodations as honorarium. Mr. McCue seconded the motion and it passed. Specifics of the talk will be presented at the July board meeting.

Ms. Wilkerson and Ms. O'Donnell volunteered to work on a thank you letter for Commissioners for their support of the new East Asheville Library.

Ms. Weatherall moved that the Board join United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. The fee is \$80 per year and each board member will contribute \$10 to the fee. Mr. McCue seconded and the motion passed. Ms. Weatherall will be in charge of collecting the money and applying for membership.

Celeste Baldwin gave a presentation on the Friends of the Library, their structure and recent fundraising activities.

New Business

The Board elected officers for the upcoming year. Ms. Weatherall nominated Mr. McCue as Chair and Mr. McCue was elected. Ms. Weatherall nominated Ms. Wilkerson as Vice-Chair and Ms. Wilkerson was elected. Board officer terms will begin in July.

Ms. Weatherall asked that Board members and Library supporters attend the June 4 meeting of the County Commissioners to advocate for the Library in the upcoming budget negotiations.

Mr. Stackhouse proposed a schedule that alternates Board meetings between Pack Library and branches. Mr. Blanton will prepare a schedule.

Director's Report

The FY 19-20 Library Budget is still in development. The budget focus was on additional staff, collection development and programming. The City has given approval to move forward on the new East Asheville Library. Groundbreaking is anticipated for early fall, pending final approval by County Commissioners. General Services anticipates completion of the Enka-Candler library meeting room renovation by mid-July. MS&R architecture firm met with staff to begin re-imagining the building layout at Pack Library. Library staff is talking with Buncombe County Schools to expand library access to all school students by using their student ID as their library card.

Board Discussion

No discussion. Motion to adjourn by acclamation.

Minutes read and approved this the 11 day of July, 2019.



Michael McCue
Library Board Chair



Jim Blanton
Library Director