

February Library Board Minutes 2/23/2021

Attendees:

Voting Members in attendance included: Deborah Cureton, Margaret Bundy, Karen Faile, Phyllis Jarvis; Zoom: Kim Blackmon, George Kirlin

Guests in attendance included Rita Vogel (Library Director), Nancy Berry (Deputy Library Director), Cathy McDaniel, County Procurement Official, Billy Mosteller, Lancaster County Council, and Steve Willis, County Administrator.

Members not in attendance included Lynn Carroll, Erik Crawford and Leo Francis

Call to Order:

A Lancaster County Library System Board Meeting was held on February 23, 2021 at the Lancaster County Administrative Building, it began at 6:36 p.m. and was presided over by Dr. Deborah Cureton.

Public Comments:

No public comments

Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous October meeting was made by Phyllis Jarvis and seconded by Margaret Bundy.

Librarian's Report:

Rita Vogel reported the numbers of patrons decreased because services are reduced. Suzannah Baker has been hired for the position of Children's Librarian for Main and Kershaw and will begin Monday, March 1, 2021.

Financial Report:

Revenue was down because no overdue fines are currently being charged based on the limited availability of the Library. Budget will be the same as last year. Steve Willis added that changes can be requested if necessary. Kershaw needs another staff member to open on Saturdays. This was included in last year's budget. Rita would like an IT director dedicated to the Library system but has been assured the current county IT personnel is capable of handling the Library system. Rita would also like to see pay increases for 20 year veterans. Steve Willis suggested that this may require a change of job description and should be discussed with HR. Rita will also discuss the possibility of another staff member for young adult with HR. There is a projection of need for Del Webb for additional staff because of steady growth in the area. Mr. Willis suggested the requests be made for additional staff next year.

Committee Reports:

Personnel:

More time is needed with the openings of the libraries to update the strategic plan concerning personnel issues.

Fund Raising:

No report

Public Relations:

No report

Old Business:

County's COVID strategies: Steve Willis reported that cases are dropping and he hopes that the county is able to start transitioning back to normal operations on March 8, 2021 with a goal of being back to normal operation by March 14, 2021.

New Business:

Smallabslearning: The Board would like to view the product in a venue before making a decision to go forward with fundraising. Concerns were that Smallabslearning was geared toward academics and would not be a drawing point for patrons. Suggested that Lancaster County Schools and USC Lancaster be contacted to inquire as to if they would be willing to endorse/utilize the product as well as contacting other libraries to inquire as to how they utilize.

Reopening Del Webb:

Will be ready to open on March 8, 2021 with suggested limited hours of 10-4 Monday -Friday. No advertising of opening and will follow COVID regulations. All technology will be ready for opening but will not open meeting rooms to public at this time because of COVID concerns. Will dedicate staff to man doors and ask patrons to use masks and limit patrons to 50% of fire regulated occupancy.

Library Renovations Update:

Cathy McDaniel shared the draft of the renovation plaque as well as reported the following updates on renovations for each library:

Del Webb: Almost ready to reopen – waiting on Lancaster Main; Comporium to complete installation and security.

Kershaw: Installation date for fiber internet is schedule for April 22 which will take approximately a month to complete. They will also need thirty days to move. Final walk through is schedule for February 24, 2021,

Main: Same as previous schedule. They experienced contract and scheduling issues because of COVID and weather. Moving will be allowed after construction is complete. Hoping to move the first of May.

Additional:

Lindsey Pettus Collection: The collection is being divided into categories. The Library will house parts of the collection that are unique to Lancaster and Lancaster history.

Smithsonian Grant: An Educational Exhibit Voting and Voices. USC Lancaster has asked for a letter of support: “How does my vote count”. This grant is a collaboration of USC Lancaster, Lancaster County Library System and Arras Foundation.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m. by Dr. Deborah Cureton.

Minutes submitted by Karen Faile