



**Ocone County Public Library**

**Minutes of meeting of Library Board of Trustees--**

**January 22, 2018—Westminster Library, Westminster, SC, 5:30 p.m.**

Members present: Beverley Brackett, Bill Caster (vice-chairman), Maria Jacobson, Lisa Martin, Marie McMahan, Chanda Morrison, Alisa Suddeth (chairman)

Members absent: Allison Griffin, Kelly Holleman

Staff/guests present: Blair Hinson, Library Director; Jean Mercer, President of the Friends of the Library; Quientell Walker, Walhalla Branch Manager; Sue Andrus, Branch Services Librarian; Leah Price, Westminster Branch Manager; Christie Johnson, Walhalla Assistant Manager

Members of the press present: none.

- I. **Call to Order:** Called to order at 5:30.
- II. **Minutes:** Minutes from November 27, 2017 Board meeting were considered. Motion to accept made by Bill Caster, seconded by Maria Jacobson. Unanimously approved.
- III. **Public Comment:** none.
- IV. **Friends Report:** Jean Mercer, the new president of the Friends, introduced herself and gave a brief description of her fundraising background. Her goals as president are to increase the number of volunteers and the amount of money raised by the group. She encouraged everyone to join the Friends group and offered to contact anyone interested herself. While the Friends group donates about \$22,000 to the library annually, that is not much when considering a building or construction campaign.
- V. **Committee Reports:**
  - a. **Finance Committee:** none.
  - b. **Policy and Personnel Committee:** none.
  - c. **Building and Grounds Committee:** none.
  - d. **Community Relations Committee:** Beverly Brackett has drafted a "letter to the editor" regarding the library's upcoming strategic planning process. She will send it to Director by January 26 to be distributed to local media. It could also be presented to patrons in the library. She contacted the local Rotary about presenting to them, but they have already scheduled speakers into the foreseeable future. The Sertoma Club is another option, but finding contact information is difficult. Beverly is willing to go present to any group, so needs contact information.

- e. **Capital Projects Committee:** none.
  
- VI. **Chairman's Report:** Chair Alisa Suddeth discussed meeting planned with high school principal at Walhalla HS and the Blue Ridge Bank to release funds for the new parking lot/outdoor activity space at the Walhalla branch.
  
- VII. **Director's Report:** Library staff members in attendance were introduced. An update on the condition of the men's restroom in the Westminster branch was given, and Director will schedule a site visit with Lake Julian from Facilities to get an estimate on repair. Director reported on the staff trip to Library Legislative Day in Columbia on January 17. They met with representatives and gave support to the State Library's budget request of \$2 per capita. The state legislature has overridden Gov. McMaster's veto of funding libraries with lottery money, which means OCPL will get \$17,391. This will be used for furniture, more Launchpads, and more electronic books in Overdrive.
  
- VIII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - A. **Strategic Plan:** Bob Moir and Janet Danforth of Facilitator4Hire are willing to facilitate a community meeting free of charge, but a grant has been applied for so possibly library can pay them. Tentative meeting dates are February 22 or February 27, 2018. This meeting will provide community representatives the opportunity to contribute their input into the strategic plan, so Board members were encouraged to identify people they know who reflect the range and diversity of the county's population. The content for the spring In Service Day scheduled for March 30 will be customer service and the strategic plan. A final draft of the strategic plan will be presented at the Board meeting on May 21. A motion was made by Marie McMahan to grant the library permission to begin the process, seconded by Bill Caster. Motion approved.
  - B. **Proceeding with engineering study for using new lot in Walhalla:** The empty lot next to the Walhalla branch will become a gravel parking lot with 18 spaces for staff and green space for outdoor library programs. Blair will contact Ladale Price, the head of County finance, to begin allocating funds for the project.
  
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. **Change to out-of-county fee:** Currently the OCPL policy for "out of county" borrowers that are not residents of Anderson or Pickens County states that a card is \$50 per year. This price is much higher than any other county similar to Oconee charges for an out of county card. A \$20 annual fee was deemed much more reasonable. Maria Jacobson made a motion to approve changing the fee immediately, Chanda Morrison seconded, and the motion was approved.
  
- X. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

**Reported by Sue Andrus, Branch Services Manager**