



Minutes

Oconee County Public Library Board of Trustees meeting

Monday, September 23, 2019, 5:30 p.m.

Seneca Library, 300 E. South Second Street, Seneca, SC 29678

Members present: Allison Griffin (vice-chair, presiding), Kelly Holleman, Sarai Melende , Chanda Morrison, Diane Smathers, Alisa Suddeth

Members absent: Beverley Brackett (chair), Lisa Martin, Katie Smith

Guest: Jean Mercer, Friends of the Library president

Staff: Blair Hinson, Library Director

Press: none

I. Call to Order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes: meeting of July 22, 2019; motion made to approve by A. Suddeth, seconded by K. Holleman; minutes approved.

III. Public Comment: Limit of (4) minutes per person, 30 minutes total: none.

IV. Friends' Report: J. Mercer reported book sales and lobby sales figures (see below). She also made the Board aware of a new outlet for Friends' book sales at M. Tannery & Sons on Ram Cat Alley in Seneca. The space is free and M. Tannery will manage the sales of the books there. These will be \$5 and up-priced books. Mercer also stated that she is trying to find more volunteers to increase the number of Saturday sales from four to six per year.

Book sales figures:

July, 2019: sale=\$1,171.75, lobby=\$144.00, Seneca lobby=\$45, Saturday sale=\$817.80

August, 2019: sale=\$850.35, lobby=\$128, Seneca lobby=\$18.00

V. Committee Reports

A. Finance: none.

B. Policy/Personnel: none.

C. Building and Grounds: none.

D. Community Relations: none.

E. Capital Projects: none.

VI. Chairman's Report: chair thanked the entire staff for their hard work in nearly tripling the participation numbers for programs for the 2019 summer reading

campaign.

VII. Director's Report: Director reported some of the specifics of the summer reading program, such as the improvement in program attendance (717 in 2018, and 2109 in 2019), and reported the results of the Read to Succeed Summer Camp, as well as the initiative to have books at pediatricians' offices for well visits, partially sponsored by First Steps (Oconee County). The Director attended the Summer Reading Wrap-up at the South Carolina State Library on September 13. He made the State Library staff aware of problems with their end-of-summer reporting survey. They will be reopening an older version of the survey for the OCPL to fully showcase its success this past summer. Director also briefly discussed the progress of the staff parking lot that is to be built at the Walhalla Main Library (previously under old business). Director also briefly introduced Literacy Kits that were developed by Leah Kelley (acquisitions manager) and Kayla Hamilton, former Youth Services librarian. These will be available for checkout after October 14.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Summer Reading report: outline in Director's comments above.
- B. Wi-Fi access after library hours: a few additional remarks were made about the lack of need for a measure to cease Wi-Fi after operating hours at this time. However, staff will report any issues going forward, and the Board may wish to revisit the issue if needed.

IX. New Business

- A. Adding a lending library of things (combined with the fishing equipment measure below)
- B. Nettles Trust: Director made the Board aware of a second distribution from the William C. and Patricia Nettles Trust of \$73,275.00. Together with the first distribution in March, 2019, of \$27,469.00, the library has \$100,744.00 as an unrestricted gift. There was brief discussion of using the funds to make existing spaces more up-to-date and inviting, as well as generating some new donations. The Board asked the Director to enlist staff and the public to develop a list of projects that could be accomplished with these funds.
- C. Approval of lending fishing and camping equipment: Director introduced a program by the Westminster Branch manager, Leah Price, to lend out fishing equipment and tackle at the Westminster Branch. The Board briefly discussed policy implications, like replacement costs and safety. Motion to approve made by C. Morrison, and seconded by A. Suddeth. The Board voted to approve the program.

X. Adjourn: motion made to adjourn by D. Smathers, and seconded by K. Holleman. Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Reported by Blair Hinson, Library Director