

ALAMANCE COUNTY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Meeting
May Memorial Public Library

Tuesday, August 15, 2017
2:00 pm

Minutes

Present: George Byrd, Christine Quigley, Courtney Doi, Hiroko Solari, Bob Byrd, MJ Wilkerson

Staff Present: Jason Rogers, Terri Lamm

Absent: Mike Cross, Jo Grimley, Amy High

Guest Present: Bruce Walker, Assistant County Manager and Department Head of IT

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm by Jo Grimley.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were not enough voting members for a quorum. Therefore, the minutes from the last meeting could not be voted on.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR:

- MJ introduced Bruce Walker to the Board.
- MJ said she will call a special meeting in September in order to vote on the minutes and the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan will then be taken to the County Commissioners to be voted on after the Library Board has approved it.
- We are moving forward with Bookmobile services. The County Commissioners approved us to proceed with fund raising and adding bookmobile services about a year ago. Jason and Susana are writing an LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) project grant for \$100,000 for the book mobile. A group recently went to Matthews Specialty Vehicles in Greensboro and looked at the different vehicles the company up-fits and retro-fits. After looking at everything they could possibly want on the bookmobile, we received an estimated quote of around \$350,000. We have a \$49,000 grant from Impact Alamance already, the Friends have committed to a minimum of 10% of the total cost (\$3,500) and Farm Bureau has pledged \$2500. If we receive the \$100,000 grant we are about 50% of the way there. In September, the Library will begin fundraising efforts by placing voting jars in the branches so people can drop money into the jar to vote for their favorite author (ex: Dr. Seuss vs. Eric Carle). MJ is trying to arrange a meeting with Finance to see if we can explore crowdfunding.
- ACPL has been invited to be a part of a grant that Alamance Community College is applying for called the Spectrum Digital Education Grant. Funds from the grant will be used to train trainers to teach people how to use technology. This grant also includes funds to help us convert our old courier van into a mobile pop-up internet café. A Mobile pop-up internet café would help us provide internet to areas in the County that don't normally have access to internet. One of our Performance Management Goals is training volunteers to teach our patrons how to use technology and software. This grant allows us to send staff for training, who will then come back and train the volunteers to pass along to the patrons.
- We are expanding ACPL Connect to include charter and private schools that use state and federal funding. HawBridge School and The Burlington School are interested in participating with us in this program. ACC is also interested in a partnership where the students enrolled there can also have an account with ACPL.
- We were contacted by the Natural History Museum in Raleigh to participate in the Candid Critter program. For a period of time in September and October they are interested in monitoring deer

migration, in specific counties, one of which is Alamance County. This particular program is called the Fall Fawn Frenzy. We will be able to keep these cameras for a couple of years. We have been given 50 heavy-duty cameras that are motion sensitive. People may apply on the Candid Critter website and go through the application process before getting one.

- The Solar Eclipse is happening next week. We applied for and received 1,000 eclipse glasses from NASA. We started handing them out on Monday at 9am. By 5:00pm, we were completely out.
- On August 8, Congressman Mark Walker visited May Memorial Library and given a tour as part of the NCLA advocacy program student ambassador program. Chris Sanford a home-schooled student was able to come and meet with Mark. When MJ, Chris and others went to DC, recently, they briefly met with Congressman Walker. Congressman Walker made the comment “You email and call me and I hear you tell me what’s going on. But, I had no idea until I came here and saw it happening and could see what you’re talking about.” Bruce said Jason did an exceptionally good job explaining the program and MJ was a really good advocate for the library. He said it wasn’t just a pass-through situation. Bruce said he thought MJ did a fantastic job representing Alamance County and getting the Congressman’s attention and making sure he focused on some of those things. Bruce said he felt that the Congressman was really listening to what was being said.
- MJ has been approached by Jane Sellars of the African American Cultural Arts & History Museum. They are interested in partnering with us and having a presence at May Memorial, if we can renovate the 3rd floor. It is an open area that needs a lot of work. There is no elevator or sprinkler system. We have been interested in renovating that and making it into office and classroom space and some type of museum or exhibit space. They met with Harden Watkins, Manager for City of Burlington to throw this idea out there. While nothing else said, MJ wanted to make the Board aware of this matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

- Strategic Plan – MJ gave the Board members 2 items. One was the actual Strategic Plan. The other was an Action Plan. MJ said the Strategic Plan has been revised. She went through the revisions of the Strategic Plan and explained the changes. MJ then went through the Action Plan and discussed what each means. MJ told the Board that if they need clarification or questions answered as they read through the Strategic Plan and Action Plans, to let her know by the end of this month. She also asked for suggestions on how to make the changes better. MJ will try to call a special meeting in September to get the Board’s approval, which is needed before she can take it to the County Commissioners for their acknowledgement. The library has always had a Strategic Plan, but it was outdated and was more of a laundry list. All North Carolina public libraries are required to have a Strategic Plan in order to receive State Aid.
- New Officers – Mike Cross is our current Chair and Jo Grimley is our current Vice-Chair. Their terms expire October 31, 2017. MJ asked if someone would consider being the new Chair and Vice-Chair. Courtney Doi said she would consider being Chair. Christine Quigley said she would consider being Vice-Chair. The Board will vote on officers at the November meeting. George, Hiroko and Amy’s terms will expire at the end of October 2017. Emily Connor was just approved to represent the City of Burlington. Dodie Boone will be a County representative. They will join the Board at the November, 2017 meeting. There are still 3 vacancies that need to be filled. MJ asked the Board if they would like to change the fiscal year to begin July 1 through June 30. The Board agreed to revise the by-laws to reflect this date change.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

November 14, 2017 (May Memorial)

6:30pm for a meal and meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 pm