

# June 2023 Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Doran Stegura  
Melody Reynolds  
James Stewart  
Carol Turrentine (Zoom)  
Alex Davis (Zoom)  
Betsy Curry (Zoom)  
Dr. Jennifer Brown, Director  
Debbie Sweeney, Assistant Director

ABSENT: Kathleen Cavender, Foundation Liason

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Meeting of the Augusta County Library Board held at the Stuarts Draft Library Station Stuarts Draft, Virginia on June 08, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. and in the 246th year of the Commonwealth. . . .

## **Call to Order**

The board meeting was held in person and via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm by chair, Doran Stegura.

## **Minutes**

The minutes from the March 23, 2023 meeting were approved as submitted.

## **Friends of the Library**

As reported in the March board meeting the Friends and Foundation merger is complete. The by-laws were voted on and approved at their June meeting. Several sub committees were formed to work on the Friend's website, finances, membership, a memorial project, and identifying and positioning a small desk for Friends' staff to work at in the library. Relocation of the Friends' book sale to the library's basement kitchen is complete. Candida Clark attended a Community Foundation meeting with Dr. Jennifer Brown where the library received a \$1,000 grant.

Ms. Stegura reports the new Friends' president, Kathleen Cavender, has infused a lot of energy into the organization. The Friends' acronym will change from FOL (Friends of the Library) to FACLF (Friends of the Augusta County Library Foundation). They are sorting out the merger and then will focus on outreach to the community. They especially need structure for giving options. The idea of a scholarship has been discussed to memorialize or honor someone (likely Jeanne Pitsenberger).

### **Director's Report**

Dr. Brown highlighted elements from the director's report included in the Board Packet. There have been several recent building challenges. Some sections of the floor in the children's area have sunk far enough to create tripping hazards. County Maintenance put up safety cones and caution tape in the young adult room and library staff added caution tape on the floor to indicate dangerous areas. Inspection from the county's structural engineer revealed the proper structural supports were not used during the phase I construction. This was compounded with moisture, fungal, and insect issues. The insect, moisture, and fungal issues have been treated and the construction company that did the original work will correct the construction issue free of charge. The library is closing June 8 and 9 for the construction repairs.

Dr. Brown was pleased to report several recent successes. The repairs to the loading dock are complete and the Little Free Food Pantry/ Library, in collaboration with The Neighbor Bridge, is also complete. Over 600 pounds of food have been given out since April. The National Library Week celebration went well and funds from a grant given by The Community Foundation will be used for a memory lab, flexible spacing, and creator technology.

Carolyn Bragg provided funding from her infrastructure budget for a part time library aide position for the Stuarts Draft library. Pam Carter awarded the library funds from her infrastructure budget to add four more hours to the Craigsville Library Station schedule. Craigsville will also have a food program this summer. Twenty-five meals will be given out on Wednesdays through the end of July.

The library is providing the Books on Wheels program this summer to 40 participants. They will receive four rounds of books with delivery every other week.

The draft of the library's strategic plan is complete. Library staff are very happy with the acquisition of Library IQ. It has robust reporting as well as community demographic information that greatly aids in collection development. Concerning programming,

storytime offerings have increased at Weyers Cave and Stuarts Draft. A third storytime will be added at Fishersville in the fall. Dr. Brown is currently working on a work analysis project with staff to better advocate for resources.

Dr. Brown is currently a member of the Virginia Library Association's leadership academy task force. She is serving as vice president of the Virginia Public Library Directors Association (VPLDA) this year and will be president next year. An outcome from Dr. Brown's community conversations these past few months is the recognition that community memory and knowledge is being lost. The Community Foundation grant will fund the creation of a memory lab where oral histories can be recorded, photos can be scanned to digital format, and VHS tapes can be transferred to DVDs or MP4s.

Jennifer Switzer announced her resignation on June 8, 2023. Her last day is June 30.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

#### *Meeting Room Policy*

Policy approved with the correction of FOL to FACLF.

#### *Library Card & Account Policy*

Policy approved as submitted.

#### *Strategic Priorities Draft*

Final document to be voted on in July.

#### *Joint library board meeting*

Dr. Brown will coordinate scheduling a joint meeting of Friends, Foundations, Trustees, and the Talking Book boards for the Augusta, Staunton, and Waynesboro libraries to be held in September, 2023. Time and location to be announced.



## **Adjournment**

With thanks expressed to Dr. Brown and there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on July 27, 2023, at the Churchville Branch Library at 6:00 p.m.

Secretary