

## March 2022 Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Doran Stegura  
Carol Turrentine  
Melody Puffenbarger  
Dr. Jennifer Brown, Director  
Debbie Sweeney, Assistant Director

ABSENT: Betsy Curry  
Alex Davis  
James Stewart  
Pam Carter, Board of Supervisors  
K. Wayne Glass, Foundation Liaison

VIRGINIA: At a Regular Meeting of the Augusta County Library Board held at the Augusta County Library Fishersville, Virginia on March 24, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. and in the 245th year of the Commonwealth. . . .

### **Call to Order**

The board meeting was held in person.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm by chair, Doran Stegura.

### **Minutes**

Lacking a quorum the minutes from the January 27, 2022 meeting could not be voted on.

### **Friends of the Library**

The Friends held another meeting in March with Candida Clark acting as temporary president. They are slowly making progress filling out their board membership. Their annual membership drive will be held during National Library Week, April 3 – 9, 2022. The Friends will have a manned greeting table at Fishersville and membership cards available at all locations. Engagement continues to be an issue and there is consideration of combining the Friends and Foundation. Other library systems have

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[Table of Contents](#)

done so with success. Dr. Jennifer Brown spoke to three groups to determine best practices. Dr. Brown contacted Wayne Glass of the Foundation to set a Foundation board meeting in May.

### **State of the Library**

Statistics are generally up across the board; however, with the library being closed December, 2020, through April, 2021, the numbers are somewhat skewed. Current user numbers are going up especially those checking out physical items. New cards normally have a spike in summer and reference questions trend down as more people are coming into the building resulting in fewer phone calls. Wireless use has been steady.

A full summer schedule of events is planned for the first time in two years. Due to lone staff members at the stations we are doing presenters and “programs in a box” for the station this summer. Events will include a combination of indoor and outdoor activities.

Dr. Brown completed her first solo budget season. Doran Stegura did an excellent job delivering the annual report at the Board of Supervisors’ meeting. All staff will be receiving at least a 5% salary increase due to the pay and compensation study completed by the county this year. The study included comparison to libraries in the area with multiple locations rather than single location libraries such as Staunton and Waynesboro.

Carrie Whitlock resigned for a position at Staunton Public Library. The position will be kept open until we know whether or not the upgrade to Librarian I is approved in the new budget. Ms. Whitlock was leading our Libraries Transforming Communities grant and will continue in a consultant capacity.

### **New Business**

Lacking a quorum the Public Health Emergency Response Policy could not be approved at the meeting. However, it was submitted to board members via e-mail and approved as submitted on April 12, 2022.

### **Adjournment**

With thanks expressed to Dr. Brown and there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on May 26, 2022, at the Augusta County Library at 4:00 p.m.

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Secretary