

Muscogee County Library Board
Thursday, October 25, 2007
Columbus Public Library

Minutes

Members Attending:

Bobsie Swift	Alice Budge	Tom Wade	Rick Covington
Cindy Garrard	Meridith Jarrell	Kelly Pridgen	Jay Alexander
Helene Watson			

Members Excused:

Murray Solomon	M. A. Dowdell	Frank Star	Price Walker, Jr.
Linda Harper	Mimi Childs	Gary Griesheim	Jimmy Elder
John Phillips (Ex-officio)	Pat Hugley-Green (Ex-officio)		John Wells (Ex-officio)

Others Attending:

Claudya Muller, CVRLS Director
Lyn Anderson, CVRLS Chief Financial Officer
Gary Wortley, CVRLS Chief Operating Officer
Debbie McGreggor, Administrative Assistant to the Director
Larry Gidron, CVRLS Bookmobile Supervisor
Suzanne Barnes, CVRLS Outreach Coordinator

Chair Bobsie Swift called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Cindy Garrard moved to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2007 meeting. Jay Alexander seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES

Alice Budge reported that this is National Friends of Libraries Week. She thanked Claudya Muller for her Letter to the Editor thanking the Friends for their contributions to the libraries. Dr. Budge emphasized that the friends are advocates for the libraries as well as raising funds through memberships and the Library Store to benefit the libraries. She reported the Friends has a membership of 165 but for a city the size of Columbus, feels the membership should be higher.

Dr. Budge reported the Friends of Libraries would be holding a retreat for its executive committee on Saturday, October 27, 2007 at the Columbus Public Library. She thanked

Brooke Mann, CVRLS Volunteer Coordinator, for her assistance in planning and leading the workshop.

In October, the Friends issued pre-paid Visa gift cards to all nine branches with designated amounts on them. These cards will provide money for supplies and refreshments for programs as needed by the different branches.

The Friends provided support and served as fiscal agent for the Writer's Conference held last month. They also provided the initial grant of \$5,000 for the Big Read program.

Dr. Budge urged members to join Friends and to patronize the Library Store.

BOARD EDUCATION/ORGANIZATION

This month's program was presented by Suzanne Barnes, CVRLS Outreach Coordinator, and Larry Gidron, CVRLS Bookmobile Supervisor.

Suzanne Barnes introduced Larry Gidron who provided information to the Board on the purpose, service and vision of the bookmobile service.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chair Swift recognized Lyn Anderson for the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Anderson reported that both revenue and expenses are in line. He stated that the only item that appeared to be out of line was on the expense report line item Purchased Professional Services in the amount of \$81,795. He reminded the board this was in part due to the legal fees incurred from the lawsuit. He stated that later in the meeting an agenda item would be recommended to correct this line item. Chair Swift thanked Mr. Anderson for the report and said the report would be filed for audit.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Claudya Muller directed the member's attention to the *Georgia Library Quarterly*. The Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System was mentioned in the magazine for:

1. An interview with Silvia Bunn,
2. In The News section mentioned three staff members who are part of the PINNACLE program and
3. In General News, the Volunteer Recognition at CVRLS

Ms. Muller reported that Susan Hayes, new South Columbus Branch Library Manager, will begin on Monday, October 29, 2007. She stated that Ms. Hayes has 30 years of library experience and is a graduate of Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance:

Committee Recommendation to move \$60,000 from the Reserve Beginning Balance to cover legal fees. Kelly Pridgen seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed unanimously.** Chair Swift stated that she felt the Muscogee County School District should absorb some of the legal fees because they were listed as one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

Committee Recommendation to move \$1 million from the Beginning Library Reserve fund to the 2003 SPLOST account for the construction of the new Mildred L. Terry Branch Library. Meridith Jarrell seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed.** Jay Alexander abstained from the vote.

Operations:

Art Donation: Chair Swift recognized Meridith Jarrell for the committee recommendation. Ms. Jarrell reported that the committee recommended accepting two watercolor paintings by Wyndell Taylor. The paintings were donated by Bobsie and Clifford Swift. Helene Watson seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed unanimously.**

Committee Recommendation to approve GOV7 Conflict of Interest Policy. The policy was presented to the board for a first reading at its September 2007 meeting. Meridith Jarrell seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed unanimously.**

Committee Recommendation to approve the revised job description for the Administrative Assistant to the Director. Cindy Garrard seconded the recommendation. The recommendation passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation to approve a new position, Administrative Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer. Meridith Jarrell seconded the recommendation. **The recommendation passed unanimously.**

Nominating:

Committee Chair Meridith Jarrell asked that Items 1 and 2, Slate of Officers—2008 and Board Member Replacements, be deferred until the November meeting. She stated that potential officer candidates and potential board members had not reached a decision as to their availability. She asked that the Nominating Committee members plan to meet on Wednesday, October

31, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. in the 3rd floor conference room of the Columbus Public Library.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -- There was none.

NEW BUSINESS - There was none.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chair Swift reminded Board members of the Honorarium/Memorial fund and that donations to the fund be given to Lyn Anderson. She stated that checks should be made out to the Muscogee County Library Foundation. She said the funds will be used when a board member has a death in the family to purchase a book in memory of that individual.

Chair Swift reported that *Columbus Ledger-Enquirer Reporter* Harry Franklin would no longer be reporting on the meetings of the Muscogee County Library Board due to changes in duties at the newspaper. She expressed her sincere thanks to Mr. Franklin for his unbiased and well-written coverage of the library. She commended Mr. Franklin for his fair reporting.

The Chair asked if there was any other discussion to come before the Board. Meridith Jarrell reminded the Board that the C-Span bus would be at the library from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.