

BRUNSWICK COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting Minutes – July 22, 2024

The Brunswick County Library Board met on July 22, 2024 in the Southwest Branch Library meeting room. Chair Jeff Mount called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Members present: Jeff Mount, Diana Dornfeld, Diana Fotinatos, June Jones, Emma Myles, Marilyn Shapiro, and Anne Smith representing a quorum.

Also present: Patricia Dew, Library Director; Don DeMore, FOL Southwest Branch Library President; Jayne Mathews, FOL-Southwest Branch Library Vice President; and Carole Long, FOL Southwest Branch Library Volunteer/Operation Paperback.

Members absent: Barbara Akinwole and Mary Stillwell.

A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 28, 2024 meeting was made by Marilyn Shapiro, seconded by Anne Smith, and carried unanimously.

Director Dew’s Report:

Staff

An improved interview process has contributed to a library staff that is the best it has been in years. Thanks to qualified, experienced staff members, the library branches are offering many new well attended programs and are better able to serve patrons of all ages.

Services

The Smithsonian Voices and Votes exhibit was extremely successful having been seen by patrons visiting the Southwest Branch Library between June 3 and July 13. Commissioner Randy Thompson greeted attendees at the opening reception on June 6.

Summer Reading has been well attended in all branches with more teen involvement than in years past. Rourk and Harper Libraries have been so well attended they have run out of prizes.

A free book, titled *The Girl from the Sea*, was offered through the summer reading program at the Rourk Library. The patron brought the book to the attention of Commissioner Pat Sykes who requested the trustees discuss the appropriateness of the book for the library collection. The matter was discussed by the library board of trustees. No action was taken since no reconsideration of materials form was received.

NC Cardinal agreement was approved by the County Commissioners on July 8.

Commissioner Marty Cooke suggested the library partner with Brunswick County Senior Resources to offer computer classes as part of Brunswick County Digital Inclusion which is part of NC Department of Information Technology, Digital Equity Resources.

Buildings

ARP enabled funding was approved by the Board of County Commissioners for the shelving at the Rourk branch and tables Leland branch at the meeting on July 8. Discussions ongoing with the St. James Woodworkers.

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Meeting room reservations available online make it clear that an expansion at the Rourk branch is needed.

Unfinished Business:

Revisions to the Gift and Donation Policy were discussed. A motion to approved revised policy was made by June Jones, seconded by Diana Dornfeld, and carried unanimously.

New Business:

Training offered to the library staff on dealing with patrons who appear to be homeless was discussed.

Public Comments:

The FOL Southwest members in attendance introduced themselves and were thanked for their volunteer contributions.

The meeting was adjourned by Jeff Mount at 4:50 PM.

Upcoming meetings:

- Monday, September 23, 2024 at 4:00 PM, ANNUAL MEETING – Leland Library, 487 Village Rd NE, Leland
- Monday, November 25, 2024 at 4:00 PM – Barbee Library, 8200 E. Oak Island Dr, Oak Island
- Monday, January 27, 2025 at 4:00 PM – Harper Library, 109 W. Moore St, Southport
- Monday, March 24, 2025 at 4:00 PM – Rourk Library, 2068 Main St, Shallotte

Respectively submitted,
Diana Fotinatos, Board Secretary