



MEETING MINUTES

BRUNSWICK COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING OFFICIAL MINUTES

MARCH 24, 2025
4:00 PM

The Brunswick County Library Board of Trustees met in Regular Session on March 24, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. in the Rourk Library, located at 5068 Main Street, Shallotte, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Yvonne Allen, Trustee D1, Southwest Branch
Diana Dornfeld, Vice Chair, Trustee D2, Rourk Branch
June Jones, Trustee D3, Harper & Barbee Branches
Mary Stilwell, Trustee D4
Barbara Akinwole, Trustee D5, Leland Branch
Diana Fotinatos, Secretary, Trustee At Large
Emma Myles, Trustee At Large
Melissa Warren, Trustee At Large

MEMBERS ABSENT

Marilyn Shapiro, Trustee At Large

STAFF PRESENT

Patricia Dew, Library Director

OTHERS PRESENT

Denise Donnelly, FOL-Rourk
Lynn Hart, FOL-Rourk
Karen Robbins, FOL-Rourk President
Sheila Umbricht, FOL-Rourk
Judy Vasile, FOL-Rourk

Board/Committee/Commission Action, containing all items in this set of minutes, is filed within the Library.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Dornfeld called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Trustee Shapiro was absent.

III. ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Dornfeld asked for adjustments to the agenda. Hearing none, Vice Chair Dornfeld made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jones and passed unanimously (8 to 0).

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Meeting Minutes – January 27, Regular Meeting

Vice Chair Dornfeld made the motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the January 27 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Allen and passed unanimously (8 to 0).

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Dornfeld opened the Public Comment period at 4:04 p.m. with the following comments:

Denise Donnelly of Friends of the Library, Rourk Branch thanked the board of trustees for their commitment to and advocacy for our library system.

Karen Robbins of Friends of the Library, Rourk Branch spoke of the ongoing fund-raising campaign for the Rourk Library Learning Garden.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

1. Library Director's Report

Budget

Requested budget initial comments from Finance & County Manager:

- Replacement courier van approved
- New staff positions: 2 Assistants, 3 Children's Librarians, 1 Tech Services Librarian, 1 Adult/Reference Librarian requested; might be only 1 TS Librarian and 1 Assist approved.
- New signs for Barbee, Leland, Rourk, and Southwest moved to ARP-enabled funding along with new carpet for Barbee and new Youth Services desk (assuming we have enough ARPA funding to do all of those)
- Subscriptions to ABC Mouse, CultureGrams, and AtoZWorldFood are 'maybe'
- Land purchase for Rourk is in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
- Post-meeting budget with comments from Finance will be sent on 28 MAR 2025

Staff

Michele Catalfamo is onboard at Southwest Branch as our newest YSS Library Assistant.

Melissa "Missy" Haderlie will start on March 27 as the new Branch Manager for Southwest Branch. She has experience as a Branch Manager and Reference Librarian in PA and WY and she should be a great addition to our team.

Services

Nothing significant to report.

Buildings

NC Cardinal resource sharing (i.e., shipping) hub is up and running! Southwest Branch Friends of the Library books have been moved to the lobby onto newly-installed shelving. The old shelves are converting into resource sharing and bookmobile office.

Federal Funding

Director Dew visited Washington, DC with the group from NC – about 12 people total – for the Voices for libraries advocacy event March 5-6.

- Rep. Brad Knot – drop off materials only
- Rep. Chuck Edwards – saw him in-person
- Rep. Virginia Foxx – met with staffer
- Rep. David Rouzer – met with staffer
- Sen. Thom Tillis – met with staffer
- Rep. Greg Murphy – met with staffer

After the Voices for Libraries visits, an executive order came out that affects Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The current understanding from IMLS is that these [current] LSTA funds are safe *at this time*. They are legislatively-mandated at the federal level and there is a Congressional appropriation for them in the federal budget. State Library staff are tracking this very closely. (see also PowerPoint from SLNC) The IMLS office was visited by DOGE last week so things are very much in flux right now.

VII. OLD BUSINESS - None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Funding for Boiling Spring Lakes Library
Trustee Stilwell will be meeting with Mayor Winecoff of Boiling Spring Lake to determine the source of \$250,000 of funding received by the city for the volunteer library.

IX. BOARD APPOINTMENTS/ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice Chair Dornfeld made the motion to appoint Diana Fotinatos to the Chair position and Yvonne Allen to the Secretary position. The motion was seconded by Trustee Stilwell and passed unanimously (8 to 0).

X. OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMAL DISCUSSION

The importance of thanking the Commissioners and advocating for additional funding at the next County Commissioners' meeting was discussed particularly in light of the fact that federal funding for libraries is in jeopardy at this time.

XI. UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 4:00 PM – Southwest Branch Library, 9400 Ocean Hwy W, Carolina Shores
2. Monday, July 28, 2025 at 4:00 PM – Leland Library, 487 Village Rd NC, Leland
3. Monday, September 22, 2025 at 4:00 PM – ANNUAL MEETING, Barbee Library, 8200 Oak Island Dr, Oak Island
4. November 24, 2025 at 4:00 PM – Harper Library, 109 W. Moore St, Southport

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Dornfeld moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:57 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Akinwale and passed unanimously (8 to 0).

Diana Dornfeld

Diana Dornfeld, Vice Chair
Brunswick County Library Board of Trustees

Attest:

Diana Fotinatos

Diana Fotinatos
Board Secretary