



**Brunswick County Library Board of Trustees Meeting
April 23, 2018
Brunswick County Emergency Center**

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chairman Ron Benton at 4:00 PM.

Trustees Present: Ron Benton, Nadine Stanley, Sheila Umbricht, Marylin Searby, Randy Sullivan, Emma Myles, Gibby Wilson, and Donna Morgan

Also present: Maurice Tate, Brunswick County Library Director

Trustees absent: Lena Butler

Agenda: Two items added to the Agenda were a report by Mr. Benton: signs for the libraries under Unfinished Business, and a discussion of the new Southwest Library under New Business.

Reading of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the October 21, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously as written.

Library Director's Report

1. **NEW BRANCH:** The new Southwest Brunswick Branch Library will open around June 1, 2018, in time for the Kids' Summer Reading. The building was repainted and cleaned, new lighting installed, and a new circulation desk installed where the bar was. There will be a book sale room for FOL, a computer lab, a children's room, and three rooms for meetings and programs. The FOL purchased standard library shelving through GovDeal.com for a fraction of the catalog price and arranged for delivery from Texas—at no cost to the County. The new library's address is 9400 Ocean Highway W., Carolina Shores, NC 28467.

The Hickmans Crossroads Branch will close at the end of day April 30, 2018 and moving will commence. Approximately 150 volunteers have signed up to help with the move.

The Sheriff's Department and Emergency Services have permission to utilize the building once the library relocates

Brunswick County Community College will continue using classrooms several evenings per week, but the library facilities will be locked and inaccessible at regular closing times.

The Board of Elections will continue to have a polling place at the new branch.

At the Southwest Brunswick Branch Library there will be one new fulltime staff member replacing another who resigned. The new staff member was hired from the Horry County Library system so she is trained, experienced, and familiar with the area.

2. **GRANT:** The eRate application was approved; bids were sought for internet service. ATMC won the contract for Barbee, Leland, Rourk and Southwest; Harper will still be served by Spectrum. Our appreciation and admiration go to Alan Cheers, who waded through all the paperwork. Mr. Cheers works in the Computer Services Department. He is so smart and patient!

Library Director's Report (cont.)

3. **BUDGET:** Ms. Tate put into her budget funding requests for everything everybody asked her for, but trimmed it down when she learned the Commissioners do not plan a tax increase this year. After meeting with the County Manager and the Finance Director, Ms. Tate expects the Library 2018-19 Budget will be about the same as the 2017-18 Budget. Ms. Tate requested another full-time staff member and believes the Library may get a part time staff member.
4. **PATRON REQUESTS:** People who have moved to Brunswick County from larger library systems asked to have the Libraries provide subscription to online services such as Hoopla and Kanopy (downloadable videos including family and adult movies). The most notable problem, Ms. Tate said, is cost. There is no provision in the budget for paying for such subscriptions or for an additional cost of a fee for each movie a patron downloads. Additionally, there is no way to limit the number of uses one patron can enjoy so the budgeting problems proliferate. Ms. Tate did not put this in the upcoming budget and wondered if perhaps FOL groups might want to get together and fund this.
5. **PROGRAMS:** Several very popular programs were held this winter. A Literature and Film series at Barbee expanded from one to two sessions due to demand. Other programs that provided much enjoyment for patrons were the Art Cart at Rourk, the Cat in the Hat for Dr. Seuss' birthday, movies, chess, yoga, calligraphy, coloring, Legos, AARP tax assistance and Master Gardener presentations.
6. **BRANCH MANAGERS:** Branch managers have had some in-person and webinar training in subjects that just a few years ago were not Library issues: dealing with the homeless and mentally ill, human trafficking, drug use in the library, registered sex offenders, general safety, and emergency response.

The branch managers are also in the midst of their sometimes annual (if they have the time) major weeding project, to withdraw damaged and outdated materials.
7. **SUMMER READING:** Summer Reading, funded mostly by the FOL groups, begins in June. The theme this year is "Libraries Rock" and will include the aquarium, planetarium, magicians and musicians. There will be reading records, and prizes and ribbons as usual. Because Roget Bacon Academy students will still be in school during the Summer Reading, Leland will have family fun stations again this year instead of programs that many children otherwise would miss. The response in Leland was very good last summer.
8. **GIFTS:** The Friends of the Library Southport and Oak Island celebrated National Library Week with a surprise delivery of spring flower to the managers and Ms. Tate. What a happy surprise!
9. **PATRON FEEDBACK:** After Lifelong Learning at Barbee last week, a man came up Ms. Tate and introduced himself as a native of a large northern city who had been vacationing here with his wife for several years. They had attended library programs often and agreed that they "wanted to be part of that group". Now they have retired to this area and are part of that group and very happy. Ms. Tate said all can all take credit for that.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Tate reported on the eRate grant in her Director's Report.

Mr. Benton said he expects a "yes" or "no" answer soon in response to the Library signs, which he discovered are considered an "encroachment." Mr. Benton's discussion with Mr. Hughes included the fact that Leland Town Manger will not only pay for the signs, but will have them installed. The hope is that signs for Rourk and Southwest will be forthcoming.

New Business

Research on parking lot requirements were presented to the Board. Ms. Tate would need to place a request with County Operations for the restriping at Barbee to occur.

Ms. Tate reported on the Southwest Branch in her Director's Report.

Public and Closing Comments

BEMC awarded a \$1,000 grant to Friends of the Library Southport and Oak Island to fund a STEAM Makerspace at Harper Library, including a book collection.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM. (Motion Ms. Myles/2nd Ms. Stanley)

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Morgan
Secretary