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## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

May, 2022

Darlington Branch May 18, 2022

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### **OPENING OF MEETING**

- A. The meeting was called to order by President, Bobbie Gardner, at 5:01 p.m. A quorum was met with the following members present: Bobbie Gardner, Warren Arthur, Vernessia Patterson, Gene Norwood, Lynette Moody, JoAnn Lee, Gail Gandy; and, the following member(s) attended remotely: Barbara Carraway.
- B. Member(s) absent: None.
- C. The following visitor(s) attended and were recognized: Kelly Shull, Lamar Branch Manager; Charlene McDonnough, Society Hill Branch Manager; Michelle Wallace, Darlington Branch Manager; Arlia Frink, Darlington Branch Youth Services Librarian; and, the following members attended remotely and were recognized: Martha Brown, Hartsville Branch Manager; Christy Lamb, Administrative Assistant.
- D. A motion was made by Gene Norwood, seconded by Warren Arthur, and carried to approve the agenda.

### **OPEN FORUM**

- A. None

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. A motion was made by Gail Gandy, seconded by Lynette Moody, and carried to approve the March minutes.
- B. A motion was made by JoAnn Lee, seconded by Lynette Moody, and carried to approve changing the next Board Meeting to 5pm, Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at the Society Hill Branch.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- A. At the time of this report, 69% of the Library's 2022 budget had been expended.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT – The Director's report included the following:**

- A. The Hartsville Friends made \$2,200 at their book sale.
- B. Two new Youth Services Librarians have been hired. Arlia Frink, Darlington Branch Youth Services Librarian, was present and introduced to the Board. Ann Beasley, Lamar/Society Hill Youth Services Librarian, will be introduced after her start date.
- C. Ms. Gail Gandy, upon Mr. Danny Douglas' recommendation, was named District 2 – Society Hill's representative to the Library's Board. This will be Ms. Gandy's 3<sup>rd</sup> four-year term.
- D. The Library's 2022 Summer Reading & Learning Program theme is "Oceans of Possibilities." A schedule of events and selection of the 2022 SRLP materials created by Marketing Manager Angelica Vilberg were shared with the Board.

Registrations will go live on the Library's website Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Those who register early will be eligible for an early registration reward, season passes to Neptune Island in Hartsville, SC. When participants complete SRLP reading goals, they will be entered for the grand prize drawing. The grand prize is their choice of:

- Riverbanks Zoo Tickets: 2 adults & 2 children
- Ripley's Aquarium Tickets: 2 adults & 2 children
- All Access State Park Pass
- \$100 Tilt Studio Gift Card
- \$100 Defy Trampoline Gift Card
- \$100 Visa Gift Card

#### **HOST BRANCH MANAGER'S REPORT – Michelle Wallace, Darlington Branch Manager**

- A.** A lot of changes are happening at the Darlington Branch—all good and positive.
- B.** Arlia Frink, a former middle school teacher at Florence School District One's Southside Middle, hit the ground running as the new Youth Services Librarian. She's made many changes to the department that were well received.
- C.** The Darlington Branch acquired a new pet, a snow leopard gecko, named Mochi.
- D.** In collaboration with Darlington Clemson Extension, a continuous garden program will run the whole of summer.
- E.** The teens now have a dedicated space with new tables and chairs. It's been good seeing them utilizing the space.
- F.** A multilingual grant allowed for the purchase of approximately 300 bilingual books. We have also added two bilingual AWE Learning Computers to the Children's Area.
- G.** The new employee parking area will take a while, but staff and patrons are coping well to the varying stages of construction surrounding us.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **A. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE**

- a. Painting is complete in the Hartsville Branch's public area. The Hartsville staff are adapting to the new colors.
- b. Safeway Signaling LTD began installation of the security and fire alarm system at the Hartsville Branch.
- c. Kirven Construction began work on the staff parking lot at the Darlington Branch. The area has been graded, it is projected to take "a while" to complete.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET –** The Library's FY 2023 budget was placed on hold as the County budget did not pass its second reading. A special work session was held and the first reading of the County's new budget will be held at 6 p.m. this evening, May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- B. FY 2023 STATE LIBRARY BUDGET CONTROVERSY –** On April 28<sup>th</sup>, the Senate unanimously adopted an amendment to the State Library's budget requiring county libraries wishing to receive State Aid to comply with a mandate not to carry any

books or materials that appeal to the “prurient interest” of children under the age of thirteen (13) in the children’s section of the library. Additionally, the amendment states that questionable books can only be checked out with parental consent. The amendment (No. 32), was sponsored by Senator Josh Kimbrell of Spartanburg.

The Darlington County Library System has a reconsideration process/policy in place that patrons may use. If someone believes a work needs to be reclassified or removed, the process provides a formal way to address those concerns. This amendment, by using legal terminology, could be considered as “raising the bar” regarding the grounds used to reclassify or remove a title from our collection. If this amendment would pass, Director Jimmie Epling has no reservations about certifying for the State Library we are in compliance.

**C. BOARD OFFICERS NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION REMINDER** – All Library Board positions will require new appointments as the current officers have held their office for the maximum limit of 2 years.

### **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

**A. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS** – The Library Board will select officers at its July meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by JoAnn Lee, seconded by Lynette Moody, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

### **Respectfully Submitted**

Christy Lamb, Administrative Assistant