



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

July 19, 2023

Lamar Branch July 19, 2023

OPENING OF MEETING

- A.** The meeting was called to order by President Gene Norwood at 5 p.m. A quorum was met with the following members present: Warren Arthur, Vernessia Patterson, Gene Norwood, Carol Hill, Gail Gandy, Bobbie Gardner, JoAnn Lee; and the following member(s) absent: Barbara Carraway.
- B.** The following visitor(s) attended and were recognized: Kelly Shull, Lamar Branch Manager; Antoinette Fernandez, IT Manager; and, the following members attended remotely and were recognized: Lynn Anderson, Society Hill Branch Manager; Martha Brown, Hartsville Branch Manager; Michelle Wallace, Darlington Branch Manager; Christy Lamb, Administrative Assistant.
- C.** A motion was made by Gail Gandy, seconded by Gene Norwood, and carried to approve the agenda.

OPEN FORUM

- A.** No members of the public requested to address the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A.** Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by JoAnn Lee, seconded by Gail Gandy, and carried to approve the May minutes with the correction to remove retired board member Lynette Moody from adjournment.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- A.** The year-end financial report (May-June) shows the Library with a budget surplus of about 5% of our original budget. The \$74,350 year-end balance does not include expenses incurred in the last month of the fiscal year.
- B.** The recently passed South Carolina FY 2024 budget included funds for public libraries. The state budget for State Aid stayed at \$2.25 per capita, with a guaranteed minimum State Aid grant of \$150,000 for all public libraries. This year Darlington County will receive the minimum State Aid grant as its population declined from 2010 to 2020, making the Library ineligible for the per capita based grant.
- C.** The Library's approved budget was distributed to the board members. There was approximately a \$104,000 increase in the budget to accommodate the salary/wage increases that result from the county's compensation and classification survey/assessment.

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

- A.** Visitation and circulation numbers are up. One notable Summer Reading and Learning Program, the Farm Festival program hosted by the Hartsville Branch, was attended by 180 children.

- B. Summer Reading and Learning Program registration numbers are strong and slightly higher than those for 2022. Star Reader yard signs are distributed upon completion of the Summer Reading and Learning program.

HOST BRANCH MANAGER'S REPORT – Kelly Shull, Lamar Branch Manager

- A. The Lamar Library has been home to a pet rabbit since May.
- B. August 3rd, the Lamar Library will host a blood drive with The Blood Connection. The blood donated through TBC stays in the area/South Carolina.
- C. Lots of new programming ahead: Knit Wars (a knitting class), Etiquette Class, Senior Movie.
- D. The Lamar Branch is a site for Red Apple Pass sign-up. The pass is renewed annually.
- E. The Summer Reading and Learning Program participation numbers were phenomenal. Registration numbers doubled. Ten (10) participants have turned in completed game boards. Patrons have until August 18th to submit.
- F. Information about Florence-Darlington Technical College's dual enrollment program for students was procured and will be provided to the community. The Lamar Library aspires to become a source of information for its residents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. BOARD OFFICER ELECTIONS – A motion was made by Warren Arthur, seconded by Bobbie Gardner, and carried to approve present officer selection remain unchanged for second term.
 - a. President – Gene Norwood
 - b. Vice President – JoAnn Lee
 - c. Secretary – Gail Gandy

NEW BUSINESS

- A. None

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

- A. None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Warren Arthur, seconded by Bobbie Gardner, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Christy Lamb, Administrative Assistant