



**Board of Trustees Meeting  
(Corrected) 26 January 2021 Minutes**

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order No. 16 regarding limiting gatherings to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 and allowing public meetings to be conducted by electronic meetings, Executive Order No. 60 extending remote meetings with the provision that remote meetings occurring on or after 1 October 2020 be recorded, and Executive Order No. 71 extending executive order provisions to February 27, 2021, the 26 January 2021 Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Board Meeting was held electronically via Zoom and recorded.

**Trustees Attending:** Chair Andy Simon, Cathy Hammon, Lauren Emert, Logan Hill, Jesus Ortega-Valenzuela, Dawn Reagan, Susan Schneibel, Stephanie Thompson, Susan Williams

**Staff Attending:** K.C. Williams - BCPL Director, Kathy Harmon, Anjanae Brueland, Kathleen Christy, Cynthia Spitler, Kathy Thompson, Judith Belew, Carrie Godfrey, Anna Gombert, Elizabeth Large, Brennan LeQuire, Chelsea Mathenia, Savannah McCarter, Melinda Rust

**Visitors:** Angela Quick - Foundation for the Blount County Public Library; Bruce Robertson - Friends of the Blount County Public Library; Liz Schreck - Ocoee River Regional Library

**Guests:** Andrew Jones - The Daily Times; Rob Spirko

**Call to Order:** Chair Andy Simon called the Blount County Public Library Board to order on 26 January 2021 at 5:37 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** Stephanie Thompson made a motion to approve the 17 November Meeting minutes and the 9 January Board Workshop minutes. Susan Schneibel seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Report of Board of Trustees Chair by Andy Simon:**

- Andy had nothing to report at this time.

**Report of Blount County Public Library Director by K.C. Williams:**

- The January 2021 Board Meeting Packet which includes the Library Director's Report, the Financial Report and the 2020-21 Library Use Statistics was distributed by email prior to the board meeting.
- K.C. read highlights from the Library Director's Report.

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**Report of Foundation Board, Angela Quick**

- Angela Quick gave an update on the Foundation Board.
  - The Foundation Board approved the 2021 meeting schedule.
  - The Board reviewed the response to the Foundation's December 2020 year-end mailing. A total of 370 letters were mailed. They received 25 replies and \$5,025.00 in donations.
  - PayPal and Square accounts have been set up. The Foundation can now accept electronic payments via their website and will be able to take credit card payments at future events.
  - The Board discussed plans for upcoming projects, including the revival of the Champion of the Library award.

**Report of Friends of the Library, Bruce Robertson**

- Bruce Robertson gave an update on the Friends.
  - Income streams remain strong. November/December 2020 saw record-breaking eBay sales with December sales totaling \$11,500.00.
  - The Friends have expanded the eBay office footprint in the library basement.
  - Used books are offered for sale in the Friends bookstore, the Bookmark Cafe, and in the Main Gallery of the library during library operating hours.
  - Basement in-person book sales were canceled in December and January. Appointment-only sales will resume in March 2021.

**Report of Ocoee River Regional Library, Liz Schreck**

- The Ocoee River Regional Library January 2021 Report, the READS FY 2020-21 Data Statistics, and the State of Tennessee Executive Order by the Governor No. 71 were distributed by email prior to the meeting.
  - Liz mentioned the Trustee Certification Program is available online.
  - The TSLA COVID-19 Libguide Page continues to be updated with helpful resources for area libraries.
  - The state's temporary allowance for electronic meetings has been extended to 28 February 2021.
  - The Training Opportunities for the Public (TOP) Grant will be offered again for 2021. Applications will be accepted until 26 February 2021.
  - Liz discussed the READS statistics.

**Old Business**

- Responding to questions from Chair Andy Simon, Bruce Robertson discussed the proposal for installing a bathroom/handwashing station in the library basement. A meeting will be scheduled with K.C., Andy, Bruce, and architect Chris Soro, C2RL, Inc.

**New Business**

- A discussion was held regarding guidelines used to determine when the library should close for inclement weather. K.C. and Anjanae will write an amendment to the current policy and present it to the board at a later date.
- K.C. discussed the proposed Hotspot Policy and answered questions from the board. No action was taken.
- K.C. discussed the proposed Internet Policy and answered questions from the board. No action was taken.
- Andy discussed the needed roof repairs.

Cathy Hammon made a motion to ask to have \$66,250.00 of fund balance moved to fund the survey, blueprints, and maintenance of the new roof project. Logan Hill seconded the motion. The motion carried with Chair Andy Simon, Cathy Hammon, Lauren Emert, Logan Hill, Jesus Ortega-Valenzuela, Dawn Reagan, Susan Scheibel, Stephanie Thompson, and Susan Williams voting in favor.

- Andy discussed the request for fund balance to replace the boiler and answered questions from the board. A request was made for clarification from Daikin regarding the disposal of the existing boiler and the cost-effectiveness of replacing both boilers now. K.C. will contact the county and request the use of additional fund balance to replace both boilers.

Jesus Ortega-Valenzuela made a motion to proceed with the replacement of one boiler and if there is a lower cost for labor to replace both boilers, approve the replacement of both boilers. Cathy Hammon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- K.C. discussed the changes in library operations due to COVID-19.
- K.C. mentioned she will bring plans to the board next month.

**Funding Requests:**

- K.C. presented the following Friends request:
  - Sharon Lawson Conference Room - Hardware Update - \$3,678.00.

Stephanie Thompson made a motion to approve the submitted funding request for the Friends. Cathy Hammon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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- K.C. presented the following Foundation funding requests:
  - There were no Foundation Funding Requests for January 2021.

**Important Dates**

**Other Library Meetings**

Blount County Commission Meeting – 18 February 2021, 7:00 pm – BC Courthouse via Zoom

Blount County Friends of the Library – 23 February 2021, 4:00 pm – KP Boardroom

Foundation for the Blount County Library - 12 February 2021 - 8:30 am - via Zoom

Maryville City Council - 2 February 2021 - 7:00 pm - Maryville Municipal Building

Alcoa Board of Commissioners - 9 February 2021 - 7:00 pm - Alcoa Municipal Bldg-Virtual & Closed to the Public

**Motion to Adjourn:**

The meeting was adjourned by Board Chair Andy Simon.

Next Library Board Meeting – 16 February 2021, 5:30 pm - via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Harmon