



Board of Trustees Meeting 16 November 2021 Minutes

Trustees Attending: Chair Andy Simon, Logan Hill, Dawn Reagan, Stephanie Thompson, Susan Williams, Timothy Moore

Staff Attending: Anjanae Brueland, Anna Gombert, Cynthia Spitler, Kathy Thompson, Brennan LeQuire

Visitors: Angela Quick - Foundation for the Blount County Public Library; Dick Burgess- Friends of the Blount County Public Library

Guests: Robert McClelland, Manuel Leite

Call to Order: Chair Andy Simon called the Blount County Public Library Board to order on 16 November 2021 at 5:29 pm.

Public Comment: Manny Leite expressed his appreciation of the Board of Trustees and the director search committee throughout the whole process, done so well and professionally from start to finish. The communication lines were clear from the get go. And his excitement to start working at the Blount County Public Library.

Approval of Minutes: Susan Williams made a motion to approve the 19 October 2021 Meeting minutes with corrections. Timothy Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Report of Board of Trustees Chair by Andy Simon:

- Andy shared that Manuel Leite has been sent a contract.

Report of Blount County Public Library Interim Director by Anjanae Brueland:

- The November 2021 Board Meeting Packet, which includes the Interim Library Director's Report and the Financial Report, was distributed by email prior to the board meeting.
- Anjanae shared upcoming Library events for December, including the Knoxville Opera on 2 December from 6-7 p.m., Santa at the Library on 6 December from 5:30-7 p.m., and a Kenyan Choir on 16 December at 2 p.m.
- Starting Monday, 8 November, the library began accepting items through the internal book drop. The external book drop closes when the library closes at 5:30 pm on Saturdays and reopens at 7:30 am on Mondays.
- Anjanae shared in the Collections Development Update that Kathy Thompson does all the book ordering for the collection with input from Youth Services and in-house experts.

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- Anjanae clarified that Tim Tipton is a Risk Manager for Blount County, and she will be meeting with him to review the library's emergency plan.
- Four new Sky Fi tables will be installed on 23 November, two at MLK Jr. Community Center and two at Springbrook, and there will be a ribbon cutting at the MLK Jr. Community Center on Monday, 6 December at 3:30 p.m.
- The Teen Room/Kelly Donation Foundation Funding Request was discussed, and Anjanae answered questions from the board.
- Andy proposed that the board members take a walk to view project areas during the meeting.

Logan Hill made a motion to move forward with the Teen Room/Kelly Donation Foundation Funding Request of \$50,000.00. Susan Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- The Learning Lab and Book Return signs were discussed.
- Anjanae shared that she would reach out to FE Technologies to move forward with the RFID and Automation Project that was approved by the Foundation, and that she would attend the 16 December Blount County Commission meeting to share information about the project and ask about a future multi-year service agreement.

Report of Foundation Board, Angela Quick

- The Foundation for the Blount County Public Library November Report was distributed at the meeting.
- Angela Quick reported on the November 2021 Foundation Meeting.
 - The Foundation board approved the \$25,000.00 Children's Area funding request and the \$151,300.00 RFID and Automation funding request, as well as provisionally approving the \$50,000.00 Teen Room/Kelly Donation Request if it was then approved by the board.
 - The Foundation held their annual internal elections from which Bill Pope was elected for a second three year term, Angela Quick will serve her final year as president, Grant Daugherty will serve as treasurer, and Jane Groff will serve as secretary.
 - The Foundation also discussed recruiting new board members for the 2022-2024 term.

Report of Friends of the Library, Bruce Robertson

- Bruce Robertson was unable to attend. Dick Burgess gave an update on the Friends.
 - The Friends are working toward the December book sale, which starts 2 December from 12:00-6:00 p.m.
 - Student volunteers from Maryville College and local high schools have been helping.
 - Andy asked board members to view the basement changes when possible.

Report of Ocoee River Regional Library, Liz Schreck

- The Ocoee River Regional Library November 2021 Report, and the READS FY 2020-21 Data Statistics were distributed by email prior to the meeting.

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- Liz Schreck was unable to attend.
- Anjanae shared that Patron Services Manager Cynthia Spitler will be attending the PLMI Alumni event listed on the upcoming trainings, and that the Youth Services department is looking into the Governor's Early Literacy Foundation Storybook Trail Grants.

New Business

- Andy shared that Manuel Leite has accepted the position of Library Director for the Blount County Public Library and will be visiting in December.
- Andy asked the board to consider canceling the December board meeting.

Stephanie Thompson made a motion to cancel the 21 December 2021 Board of Trustees meeting and have the next meeting on 18 January 2022. Dawn Reagan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- The board walked around the library to view the project areas of the Shakespeare Garden, the carpet, the area for the teen room, and the book drop and sorting rooms.
- Robert McClelland, who compiled the results of the 2021 Community Survey, shared what he saw as significant changes from the results of the 2018 Community Survey.
- The board discussed the findings, and Anjanae and Robert answered questions.
- Andy proposed creating committees with library employees to address responses to the survey.
- Andy thanked the Director Search Committee for their work and for involving the community.

Funding Requests:

- Anjanae presented the following Friends requests:
 - There were no Friends Funding Requests for November 2021.
- Anjanae presented the following Foundation funding requests:
 - The Teen Room/Kelly Donation Foundation Funding Request was presented during the interim director's report.

Important Dates

Other Library Meetings

Blount County Commission Meeting – 18 November 2021, 7:00 pm – BC Courthouse
Blount County Friends of the Library – 23 November 2021, 4:00 pm – BCPL
Foundation for the Blount County Public Library - 10 December 2021, 8:30 am – BCPL
Maryville City Council - 7 December 2021, 7:00 pm – Maryville Municipal Bldg
Alcoa Board of Commissioners - 14 December 2021, 7:00 pm – Alcoa Municipal Bldg

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Motion to Adjourn:

Dawn Reagan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next Library Board Meeting will be held on 18 January 2022, at 5:30 pm, in the Dorothy Herron Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Gombert