

**MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
December 8, 2020**

I. Call to Order

President Elaine Roberts called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, GA. The board members exercised social distancing and wore masks in order to safely conduct the meeting.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Suzanne Carter, Kathy Day, Debbie Phillips, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Mary Welken, Tammy Wells, and Linda Worl. MRLS Director, Heath Lee and Friends, Jane Farrell, Barbara Hale, and Delores Staton were also in attendance.

Board members not present: Judith Lee, Gigi Smith, and Doris Tilly.

II. President's Report

President Roberts welcomed all to the meeting.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the October 8, 2020 board meeting were presented by Kathy Day. Tammy Wells moved that the minutes be accepted as read; motion was seconded by Suzanne Carter; passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Jim Reynolds distributed the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2020 to December 1, 2020. Beginning balance was **\$26,115.19**. Total income was **\$6,867.04**; total expenses were **\$7,833.51**. The balance as of December 1, 2020 is **\$25,148.34**, with unencumbered funds of **\$17,648.34**. The financial report was accepted.

Jim Reynolds reported that to date, the first FOLTC "Honor System" Book Sale had reaped a total of \$1,360.85 with \$1,164.85 in book sales and \$196.00 in membership. He also reported that he had renewed the FOLTC membership in Friends of Georgia Libraries.

V. Library Report

Debbie Phillips provided an update regarding TCPL and MRL branches. With the temporary closure of MRL a good bit of their effort is spent in shuffling books from PINES between the 2 branches.

Heath Lee reported that negotiations are underway with Towns County government regarding funding possibilities to reopen MRL.

VI. Book Bunch 'n Lunch

Gigi Smith was not present. In her absence, Barbara Hale reported the next book for January 5, 2021 will be The Age of Innocence, by Edith Wharton.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee was unable to attend but emailed that she had sent thank you notes to Cindi Therrel of Mountain Graphics for printing the book sale flyers at no cost to FOLTC and to Delores Staton for her Patron Membership.

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh thanked all the organizers who pulled together the first "Honor System" Book Sale where customers placed their payments for books in the money box in the book store and the book sale was not manned by volunteers due to COVID risks and restrictions. She is very happy with the proceeds so far from the sale.

Suzanne Carter moved that the final day of the sale would be a \$5.00 per grocery store bag sale; motion was seconded by Marcia Aunspaugh; approved unanimously.

IX. Bake and Pie Sales

There are no plans to have bake or pie sales this year. The position of Bake Sale chair person remains unfilled.

X. Membership

Tammy Wells will send out reminder notices for renewals.

XI. Newsletter

Darlene Pilcher requested that articles for the winter newsletter be submitted no later than January 15, 2021.

XII. Publicity

Suzanne Carter presented a list of names and addresses to local funding agencies that provide financial support to the 2 libraries in Towns County along with a sample letter for members to use to express concerns regarding the closing of the Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris. She urged all to write letters as soon as possible given that budgets for next year are currently being established.

XIII. Old Business

- a. Mercier's Orchards - Jim Reynolds reported that FOLTC continues to receive invoices from Mercier's Orchard for the pies purchased for the 2019 pie sale despite the fact that he hand delivered a check to them for the full amount owed when the pies were picked up. He has made

repeated attempts to get them to acknowledge this payment by sending them a letter with copies of the cancelled check, but to no avail.

- b. Defibrillators - Jim Reynolds reported that the purchase of the AER (defibrillators) for the 2 libraries has not taken place since pricing has not been received from the State.

XIV. New Business

- a. Magazine Subscription – The Garden Gate magazine has come up for renewal at both libraries. Given that magazines are not being circulated to patrons at present due to COVID restrictions it was decided not to renew the magazines at this time..
- b. Scrapbook Chairperson: Delores Staton has agreed to serve as the new scrapbook chairperson.

XV. Election of Officers

The nominating committee presented the following slate of officers for 2021:

President - Mary Welken

Vice President – Linda Worl

Recording Secretary – Kathy Day

Treasurer – Jim Reynolds

Corresponding Secretary – Judith Lee

Since there were no nominations from the floor, a vote was called and the officers were accepted by acclamation.

XVI. Other Business

Mary Welken proposed a date change for the February 2021 board meeting. Marcia Aunspaugh moved to change the meeting date from February 9, 2021 to February 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.; seconded by Jim Reynolds; passed unanimously.

Marcia Aunspaugh moved to contribute up to \$100 for refreshments for Debbie Phillips' retirement party; seconded by Tammy Wells; passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. by President Elaine Roberts.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Day, Recording Secretary

Approved February 16, 2021