

**MINUTES**  
**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**April 9, 2024**

**I. Call to Order**

President Mary Welken called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, GA.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Rose Mary Crook, Kathy Day, Barbara Hale, Kevin Kirby, Judith Lee, Ann Lewis, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Delores Staton, and Mary Welken. Friends Dick Aunspaugh and Kim Brown were also present.

Board members not present: Gigi Smith.

**II. President's Report**

President Welken welcomed everyone and asked all board members to introduce themselves as this was Kim Brown's first meeting. She reported that Kim Brown has taken over the chair of the Book Bunch as Gigi Smith has resigned.

**III. Minutes**

The minutes of the February 13, 2024 board meeting were presented by Kathy Day. Barbara Hale moved that the minutes be accepted; motion was seconded by Jim Reynolds; passed unanimously.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Jim Reynolds presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2024 to April 1, 2024. Beginning balance was **\$25,304.14**. Total income was **\$3,306.56**. Total expenses were **\$64.39**. The balance as of April 1, 2024 is **\$28,546.31**, with encumbered funds of **\$6,100.00** and with unencumbered funds of **\$22,446.31**. The financial report was accepted.

**V. Library Reports**

Ann Lewis, MRL Branch Manager, reported a new Youth Services person has been hired. The Tuesday afternoon and babies programs are both growing. The staff is working on redoing the children's area. The March adult program about the book Taken at Birth was well attended. There will be no April adult programming. MRL will be participating in the City of Young Harris "Spring Fling" event April 21, 2024 with a table and FOLTC is invited to participate. There will

be Rotating Art exhibit receptions for the general public at MRL and Peach State Credit Union on April 24,

Kevin Kirby reported on the ongoing preparations for the summer reading program. He asked for donations of silk flowers if anyone has a surplus they would like to give. He also asked for financial support to buy popsicles to be given out at the outdoor activities days, giveaway books as prizes, purchase of (2) Busy Boards, and money to be split between TCPL and MRL for prize boxes.

Marcia Aunspaugh made a motion to give \$150.00 to buy popsicles; motion was seconded by Rose Mary Crook; passed unanimously.

Suzanne Carter made a motion to give up to \$500.00 to purchase giveaway books for summer reading; motion was seconded by Rose Carter; passed unanimously.

Barbara Hale made a motion to give \$150.00 to purchase (2) Busy Boards; motion was seconded by Marcia Aunspaugh; passed unanimously.

Rose Carter made a motion to give \$200.00 to be split between TCPL and MRL for summer reading prize boxes; motion was seconded by Darlene Pilcher; passed unanimously.

Kevin Kirby also reported on a very fun and successful joint program with the Master Gardeners to make bird houses. There was an art project on creating collages for all ages. TCPL participated in Read Across America.

## **VI. Book Bunch**

Gigi Smith has stepped down as chair. Kim Brown is the new chair for Book Bunch. She reported the April and May books will be: Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel by Sheldon Van Pelt and The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie: A Flavia deLuce Novel by Alan Bradley. Kim said one of her immediate goals is to learn why people come once to Book Bunch and then don't come back. She is interested in increasing the number of people participating.

## **VII. Corresponding Secretary**

Judith Lee reported she had sent thank you's to Jo and Walton Sineath, Barbara and Bob Bone, Laura and Gary Dye, Marilyn Brown, Grace Andrews, CocaCola c/o Dave Geiger, Theodore and Maureen Gustafson, Betty Dotson, James and Sandra Hazen, and Doris Tilly. A "thinking of you" card was sent to Barbara Hale.

### **VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales**

Marcia Aunspaugh reported sales went well at both bookstore locations during the Inventory Reduction Sale. She recommended that we have multiple Inventory Reduction sales during the year in lieu of the set-up sales that we have had in the past. This worked very well as it did not require as much labor for setting up for the sale and it allowed the Community Room/Book Store at MRL to remain open for use while simultaneously having a book sale. The next Inventory Reduction sale is scheduled for August 1-30, 2024.

### **IX. Bake Sales**

No bake sales are currently scheduled.

### **X. Membership**

Rose Carter reported that as of April 2024 we have a total of 88 current members consisting of 3 business, 8 donor, 11 family, 4 honorary, 35 individual, 6 life, 16 patron, and 5 sponsors. 9 of these are new since February.

### **XI. Newsletter**

Darlene Pilcher requested all articles for the May newsletter be submitted by April 25, 2024.

### **XII. Publicity**

Suzanne Carter continues to provide updates for the website and posts on FaceBook, including sharing posts from the libraries on the FOLTC FaceBook page.

### **XIII. Old Business**

- National Library Workers Day – April 9, 2024  
Mary Welken delivered the Ingles gift cards to all library staff today and they were received with appreciation.
- By-Laws update  
Updates and revisions are in progress.

### **XIV. New Business**

- Ferst Readers Sponsorship. Marcia Aunspaugh made a motion to give \$300 to Ferst Readers to provide free monthly books to children in Towns County; motion was seconded by Judith Lee; passed unanimously.
- Commissioner's Matching Grant: Mary Welken will contact Cliff Bradshaw to set a date for the check presentation and photo opp.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. by President Mary Welken.  
The next meeting will be June 11, 2024, at TCPL.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Day, Recording Secretary.

APPROVED June 11, 2024