

**MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2020**

I. Call to Order

President Elaine Roberts called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at Hamilton Gardens pavilion, Hiawassee, GA. The board members exercised social distancing and wore masks.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Suzanne Carter, Debbie Phillips, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Gigi Smith, Elaine Vickers, Mary Welken, and Linda Worl. Barbara Hale, Friend, was also in attendance.

Board members not present: Kathy Day, Tammy Wells, Doris Tilly, and Judith Lee. Amy Barrett had resigned from the board previous to the meeting.

II. President's Report

President Roberts welcomed all to the meeting. Heath Lee, MRLS Director, was unable to attend.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the June 9, 2020 board meeting were presented by Suzanne Carter (acting as recording secretary in the absence of Kathy Day). Darlene Pilcher moved that the minutes be accepted as read; motion was seconded by Jim Reynolds; passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Jim Reynolds distributed the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2020 to July 31, 2020. Beginning balance was **\$26,115.19**. Total income was **\$1,743.89**; total expenses were **\$7,295.90**. The balance as of July 31, 2020 is **\$20,563.18**, with unencumbered funds of **\$14,563.18**. The financial report was accepted.

V. Library Report

Debbie Phillips, as newly appointed Branch Manager for both libraries and MRLS representative (voting member) on the FOLTC board, presented reports for the 2 libraries. The table and chair for the TCPL (purchased by FOLTC) has arrived. The summer reading program was conducted this year using Bean Stack, an app provided by the State, for recording books read by participants. Due to the pandemic, there was not much participation this summer. The app will be able to be used in the future by all ages for different reading programs.

Debbie's new duties include staff scheduling and purchasing of books for the two libraries. There are a total of 6 staff members who are working between the

Towns County libraries. She has requested that volunteer hours be sent to her monthly at libraryt@mountainregionallibrary.org.

VI. Book Bunch ‘n Lunch

Gigi Smith reported that Book Bunch ‘n Lunch is once again being held at Daniel’s Restaurant in Hiawassee on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. About 15 people attended the July gathering. The August 19th book to be discussed is *Sweet Danger* by Margery Allingham, discussion to be led by Georgia Norton.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith has sent thank you letters to James & Linda Worl (for donor membership) and Bruce & Elaine Roberts (for patron membership).

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia and her committee are working to move books from the maintenance room to the storage shed. She will discuss the possibility of having a one-day book sale with Director Lee. How many people would be allowed in the bookstore at a time? When will we be able to accept donations? There was discussion regarding space in the shed. It was suggested to possibly move the black file cabinet outside of the shed and maybe having people place donations in it so the books can be quarantined for a time before being moved into the shed. Marcia will also discuss this with Lee.

IX. Bake and Pie Sales

Elaine Vickers submitted her letter of resignation (see attached) effective immediately. There are no plans to have bake or pie sales this year.

X. Membership

Tammy Wells was not present.

XI. Newsletter

Darlene reported that the summer newsletter was recently completed with the editing assistance of Suzanne Carter. Submissions for the November issue need to be sent to Darlene by Oct. 20th at the latest.

XII. Publicity

Amy Barrett recently resigned from the board as Publicity Chair due to duties with the Hiawassee City Council. Suzanne Carter has agreed to serve as Publicity Chair for the remainder of the year. Newspaper articles need to be written regarding membership and no bake sales. A new Instagram account needs to be established.

XIII. Old Business

The Little Free Library box has been completed and needs to be decorated with the FOLTC name. Marcia will ask Dick Aunspaugh if he would be willing to do it.

An invoice for \$500.00 has been sent to the Peach State Federal Credit Union at their request. The funds will be divided between the 2 libraries (to be used toward the purchase of 2 defibrillators). This is year 2 of their 5-year commitment. A photo and article will be submitted to the newspaper by Scott Roland, PSFCU.

XIV. New Business

Linda Worl suggested that sturdy stools (for standing on) be purchased for the bookstore. Suzanne Carter made a motion to purchase 2 stools from Amazon for approximately \$100; motion seconded by Marcia Aunspaugh; motion passed unanimously. Linda Worl will handle the order.

Jim has researched purchasing 2 defibrillators for the libraries; he recommended those that can be used on both children and adults. Jim will talk to Vicki from the regional staff to see if they can be ordered on state contract. He will then request a motion and vote from the board members via email.

It was suggested that FOLTC purchase a \$40 gift certificate to Brother's Restaurant in Young Harris to be given as a door prize at the September Staff Development Day. Marcia Aunspaugh made a motion to do this; seconded by Darlene Pilcher; passed unanimously.

XV. Other Business

Barbara Hale reported that the Friends of Georgia Libraries' (FOGL) awards ceremony for Doris Tilly is still planned for October 2nd in Athens. Suzanne Carter made a motion that FOLTC will pay for Doris to attend; Elaine Roberts seconded; passed unanimously. Other people who wish to attend will pay their own way.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 by President Elaine Roberts.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Carter

Approved October 13, 2020