

**MINUTES**  
**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**June 8, 2021**

**I. Call to Order**

President Mary Welken called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, GA.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Marlene Cannon, Suzanne Carter, Judith Lee, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Delores Staton, Gigi Smith, Doris Tilly, Mary Welken, and Tammy Wells. Friends in attendance included Barbara Hale.

Board members not present: Kathy Day, Darlene Pilcher, and Linda Worl.

**II. President's Report**

President Welken welcomed all to the meeting.

**III. Minutes**

The minutes of the April 13, 2021 board meeting were presented by Mary Welken. Marcia Aunspaugh 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, 2021 to May 31, 2021. Beginning balance was **\$25,697.75**. Total income was **\$3,945.43**. Total expenses were **\$5,465.21**. The balance as of May 31, 2021 is **\$24,177.87**, with encumbered funds of **\$6,000.00**, and with unencumbered funds of **\$18,177.87**. The financial report was accepted.

**V. Library Report**

Marlene Cannon reintroduced herself as the Branch Manager for the Towns County libraries. She reported that 2 book stacks collapsed at TCPL last month. The library will be back in order soon. The summer reading program begins on June 9<sup>th</sup> with a program from Smithgall Woods. TCPL is fully staffed. MRL has a position open, having hired someone to take Cat's position (she is leaving to work on a library science degree).

Marlene requested that all volunteer hours be emailed to her monthly at: mcannon@mountainregionallibrary.org.

## **VI. Book Bunch 'n Lunch**

Gigi Smith reported on the titles for June and July. The June book is Island of Sea Women by Lisa See; discussion to be led by Delores Staton. July's title will be Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover; discussion leader, Donna Howell.

## **VII. Corresponding Secretary**

Judith Lee reported that she sent a thank you letter to the editor of the Towns County Herald (which was published in the paper as a Letter to the Editor) for the excellent book sale coverage. She sent a sympathy card to Donna Howell. Also sent were thank you cards to Lance and Virginia Jobson and Marcia and Dick Aunspaugh. A gift acknowledgement was sent to Bud and Woodie Dyer.

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

Marcia Aunspaugh thanked everyone who assisted with the recent sorting of the books in the shed. She felt that book sales were down a little at MRL, but Jim's statistics showed that not to be the case. Marcia gave 10 boxes of children's books to the Little Free Library in Mayor's Park, Young Harris. She also has some books to be given to Woody Gap School. The bookstore committee is waiting on some shelving before opening the bookstore at TCPL. Mary Welken and husband David offered to move the money box to the bookstore area and hang the new sign. (This was accomplished the following morning). It was decided to go ahead and begin selling books at that store even though we're waiting for a bookcase.

## **IX. Bake and Pie Sales**

There is no chairperson for this committee and no plans to have another book sale or bake sale in 2021.

## **X. Membership**

Tammy Wells had shared names of previous members whose memberships had lapsed for a number of years. She will delete them from the membership list. Barbara Hale will touch base with some of them at her church to see if they'd like to rejoin. Suzanne offered to update the membership form with the new website as stock is running low. It was decided that she would order 500 to be printed after corrections are made.

## **XI. Newsletter**

Darlene Pilcher was absent. Mary Welken shared some ideas for newsletter articles and asked other board members to submit articles occasionally. Articles about library employees and FOLTC board members were added to the list. Doris Tilly will write an article about the history of FOLTC for the August newsletter.

## **XII. Publicity**

Suzanne Carter will work on an article for the newspaper/newsletter/website about the new bookstore at TCPL. She also stated that other board members are welcome to write articles and send to her so she can forward to the appropriate person at the newspaper.

## **XIII. Old Business**

- a. Ribbon Cutting – The ribbon cutting ceremony by the Chamber of Commerce was a success. Cookies were either eaten there or given to library staff members.
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bookstore at TCPL – The timeline was discussed earlier in the agenda.

## **XIV. New Business**

- a. Better World Books – After a short discussion, it was decided to continue to scan nonfiction titles to be sent to Better World Books as enough members were willing to assist.
- b. Memorial Book for Steve Howell – Barbara Hale offered to ask Donna Howell to recommend a title to be given in memory of her husband.
- c. Quarterly Newsletter – This was discussed during the Newsletter portion of the agenda.
- d. FOLTC Scholarship for Library Employees – After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Tammy Wells to limit the scholarship to \$1,000 per school year for up to two years. Motion was seconded by Doris Tilly and passed unanimously. The Howell-Tilly Scholarship application will be adjusted accordingly.
- e. Donations – Marlene stated that book donations must be made directly to FOLTC without going through library staff first. Also, books should not be left in front of the libraries or in the book drops. It was decided that FOLTC will accept donations on the first Monday of each month (unless the library is closed for a holiday). People who wish to donate on other days will be able to send an email to FOLTC and other arrangements may be made.
- f. Fall Book/Bake Sale – As of this date there are no plans to have a fall book or bake sale due to shortage of inventory.
- g. Request by Marlene Cannon – Marlene shared a new program called Sketchbook Gala that will take place at MRL on July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3:00-4:00. It was requested that FOLTC provide and serve refreshments. Suzanne Carter made a motion to spend up to \$200 on store-bought cookies, bottled water, and juice boxes for this event. Motion seconded by Marcia Aunspaugh; passed unanimously. Jim Reynolds offered to

purchase the refreshments. Marcia Aunspaugh will purchase some tri-fold display boards to display the art work.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m. by President Mary Welken.  
Next meeting will be August 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at MRL.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Carter, Publicity Chair

Approved August 10, 2021