

MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
August 10, 2021

I. Call to Order

President Mary Welken called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, GA.

Board members present were: Marlene Cannon, Suzanne Carter, Kathy Day, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Delores Staton, Doris Tilly, Mary Welken, Tammy Wells, and Linda Worl. Friends in attendance included Jane Farrell and Barbara Hale.

Board members not present: Marcia Aunspaugh, Judith Lee, and Gigi Smith.

II. President's Report

President Welken welcomed all to the meeting.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the June 8, 2021 board meeting were presented by Kathy Day. Suzanne Carter 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 July 31, 2021. Beginning balance was **\$25,697.75**. Total income was **\$5,420.26**. Total expenses were **\$6,437.65**. The balance as of July 31, 2021 is **\$24,680.36**, with encumbered funds of **\$6,000.00**, and with unencumbered funds of **\$18,080.36**. The financial report was accepted.

A motion was made by Suzanne Carter to encumber \$5000 for the 2022 Commissioner's Challenge Grant and \$1000 for the Towns County Libraries' 2022 Summer Reading Program; motion was seconded by Darlene Pilcher; passed unanimously.

V. Library Report

Marlene Cannon announced that going forward all library programming will be done as a county and not branch specific. She reported that the Summer Reading Program was a huge success; 134 people attended the petting zoo event; they had great support from both mayors and the county commissioner in allowing use of community green spaces for outdoor events.

Upcoming Events:

- Story time will resume in August on the normal schedule.
- She was pleased to report a collaboration with FERST Readers to provide personnel for programs for the 0 – 5 years age group.
- Appalachian Trail Mural reveal will be in September
- Adult programming coming up on Appalachian Trail history by Mary Elder
- October will be a Teen-tober baking contest based on the tv show “Nailed It”
- Heather Welch, the new Public Service Coordinator, will do a series in October on weird history facts.
- Mountain Regional Arts & Crafts Guild will be conducting a 6 week arts program in coordination with the libraries.

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

A motion was made by Tammy Wells to provide \$1000 for library programming expenses to be used as needed for events until year end 2021; receipts to be provided as in the past; motion was seconded by Darlene Pilcher; passed unanimously.

VI. Book Bunch ‘n Lunch

Gigi Smith was unable to attend. Barbara Hale reported in her absence. The August book is Anxious People by Frederik Backman; discussion leader Virginia Tinsley. September’s title will be The Pull of the Stars: A Novel by Emma Donoghue; discussion leader, Delores Staton. The October book is The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland by Jim DeFede; discussion leader Barbara Hale.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee was unable to attend but reported via text that thank you letters were sent to Marie Miller and Peach State Credit Union.

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh was unable to attend. Many boxes of books were received on the first donation day, Monday, August 2.

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 shared that she has purged the inactive members. New membership forms have been printed and she is working on this year's membership renewal drive. Some membership statistics of note: In 2014, FOLTC had 360 member (family) units and we had an increase of 4% per year. In 2020 there were 416 (family) units which represented an increase of 11%.

XI. Newsletter

Darlene Pilcher commented that it was good to have so many different voices represented in this last newsletter. Next newsletter deadline is October 31st.

XII. Publicity

Suzanne Carter reported that the new membership forms are done. She is revising the flyer regarding the type of donations that we will accept. The Howell-Tilly Scholarship form has been updated to reflect the change voted last meeting.

XIII. Old Business

- a. 2nd Bookstore at TCPL – bookstore is up and running.
- b. Peach State Federal Credit Union – annual donation check was received.
- c. Quarterly Newsletter – articles. This topic was covered under Newsletter above.
- d. 1st Book Donation – it was decided to continue to conduct book donation days on the 1st Monday of each month. Since the September donation day falls on a holiday, no alternate date was set up. Tammy Wells will send out a reminder to members that books will not be collected that day and to save the date for the October donation day.
- e. Memorial Book for Steve Howell – Barbara Hale will follow up with Donna Howell on a recommendation.
- f. Sketchbook Gala took place on July 23, 2021 at MRL and was well received by all. FOLTC provided and served refreshments.

XIV. New Business

- a. Appalachian Trail Mural – A motion was made on June 25, 2021 by Linda Worl for FOLTC to contribute \$400 for the Appalachian Mural Trail project for Towns County Public Library; motion was seconded by Suzanne Carter; passed with 11 Board members voting via email.
- b. Recommended books for newsletter from Board members – this was begun in the last newsletter and will continue.
- c. Mural for Children's Library – Doris Tilly is seeking ideas for a mural to be added in the Children's Library at MRL.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m. by President Mary Welken.
Next meeting will be October 12, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at TCPL.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Day, Recording Secretary

Approved October 12, 2021