

MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
August 9, 2022

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, Marlene Cannon, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Kathy Day, Judith Lee, Darlene Pilcher, Elaine Roberts, Gigi Smith, Delores Staton and Mary Welken. Friends Jane Farrell, Barbara Hale and Linda Worl were present.

Board members not present: Jim Reynolds.

II. President's Report

President Welken welcomed everyone.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the June 7, 2022 board meeting were presented by Kathy Day. Marcia Aunspaugh moved that the minutes be accepted; motion was seconded by Darlene Pilcher; passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Jim Reynolds did not attend but had provided the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2022 to July 22, 2022. Beginning balance was **\$26,729.23**. Total income was **\$3,845.76**. Total expenses were **\$13,992.10**. The balance as of July 22, 2022 is **\$16,582.89**, with encumbered funds of **\$5,000.00**, and with unencumbered funds of **\$11,582.89**. The financial report was accepted

V. Library Report

Marlene Cannon shared the library events that have been possible due to funding support from FOLTC.

These included:

- Summer Reading Program "Oceans of Possibilities"
Had great participation this summer with some events having 200-300 attendees. Touch a Truck event with free shaved ice for all was a huge success!
- Adult Summer Reading Bingo
- Mini Art Show with ocean theme

August is when she and Kevin plan activities for September to January. The \$5000 recently given to the libraries by FOLTC will go toward a new After-School program at the local schools. Library staff participated in Back to School night at the local schools and are starting a partnership with the schools called “Play Card” for students to be able to check out materials from a limited selection brought to the school on a cart.

In 2023, they would like to launch a Back to School Bash to distribute school supplies, drinks, snacks to kids and would like FOLTC to help support this.

Marlene notified us that we no longer needed to keep track of or report our volunteer hours to the libraries for any work we do for FOLTC.

VI. Book Bunch ‘n Lunch

Gigi Smith reported the August book will be The Plot by Jean Hanff Korelitz. The September book will be The Four Winds: A Novel by Kristin Hannah. Multiple copies of the chosen titles are available at the library circulation desks for book club members. Gigi encouraged board members to participate in the book group.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee reported that she had sent thank you letters to James and Georgia Moultrie, sponsors, and John R. Bowen, donor.

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh reported that donations have been overwhelming lately. She was pleased to report that there were 5 new people who helped with the book sale setup in addition to the usual helpers. The honor system book sale is taking place August 8 – August 19, 2022 at both libraries whenever the libraries are open.

IX. Bake and Pie Sales

There is no chairperson for this committee and no plans at present for future bake sales.

X. Membership

Rose Carter reported we have 3 new members and 3 renewals bringing the total membership to 107. She has added a notation to bring the postcard to the bookstore for a free book when members renew their membership.

XI. Newsletter

Darlene Pilcher stated the deadline for newsletter articles is October 31st.

XII. Publicity

Suzanne Carter was pleased to report FOLTC is receiving good publicity in the Towns County Herald. Our articles appear multiple times without her having to request it. She has submitted articles about the book sale to the Towns County Herald, North Georgia News, Clay County Progress, through the Towns and Union Chambers of Commerce, and the United Community Bank electronic bulletin board.

XIII. Old Business

- a. VP position – this position is still vacant.
- b. Towns County Library Board President Mary Welken attended the June board meeting and provided a copy of her report.

XIV. New Business

- a. Copyright infringement notification – we have received notice that an unauthorized use of a copyrighted image was included in one of our newsletters. The first demand was for payment of \$250; the second demand from an attorney is for \$1250. Discussion ensued and it was decided to seek advice from local experts before proceeding with any resolution of this issue or payments.
- b. Dehumidifier/Air Conditioner in storage shed is not working – Darlene Pilcher will have her husband check it out and consult with the electrician who installed it to see if there is a simple fix before replacing it.
- c. Morale booster for library staff – recent stressful and unpleasant events at the libraries are affecting the staff. We discussed ways that FOLTC could demonstrate our support and encouragement of the staff.

Suzanne Carter made a motion that FOLTC spend up to \$200 to have lunch delivered to the 12 staff in the 2 libraries as appreciation. The motion was seconded by Rose Carter; passed unanimously.

- d. 25 year Celebration of FOLTC – Mary Welken asked for volunteers to chair a committee for this celebration to be held at the December 13, 2022 FOLTC annual meeting. Barbara Hale, Suzanne Carter, Elaine Roberts, Judith Lee and Mary Welken will serve on the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. by President Mary Welken.
The next meeting will be October 11, 2022 at TCPL.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Day, Recording Secretary
APPROVED October 11, 2022