

MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
October 11, 2022

I. Call to Order

President Mary Welken called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. at Towns County Public Library, Hiawassee, GA.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Judith Lee, Elaine Roberts, Gigi Smith, Jim Reynolds, and Mary Welken. Friend Barbara Hale was present.

Board members not present: Marlene Cannon, Kathy Day, Darlene Pilcher, and Delores Staton.

II. President's Report

President Welken welcomed everyone.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the August 9, 2022 board meeting were presented by Suzanne Carter. Rose Carter 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, 2022 to September 30, 2022. Beginning balance was **\$26,729.23**. Total income to date was **\$8,287.63**. Total expenses from July 23-Sept. 30, 2022 were **\$501.34**. Total expenditures for 2022 are **\$14,493.44**. The balance as of September 30, 2022 is **\$20,523.42**, with encumbered funds of **\$5,000.00**, and with unencumbered funds of **\$15,523.42**. The financial report was accepted

V. Library Report

Marlene Cannon was absent. Mary Welken will request that Marlene share a written report that can be shared via email with board members and attached to these minutes.

VI. Book Bunch 'n Lunch

Gigi Smith reported the October book will be The Feather Thief by Kirk W. Johnson. The November book will be And the Answer Is by Alex Trebek.

Multiple copies of the chosen titles are available at the library circulation desks for book club members. The 2023 list of titles will be available in November.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee reported that she did not send out any letters.

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh reported that donations have been received regularly at both libraries. MRL donations have been rather slow, but TCPL has received an abundance of donations. Things are going well in both bookstores. The sign posted above the donation bin at TCPL has been effective in keeping people from piling boxes of donated books in the lobby.

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 is looking for different ways to report active and inactive memberships. Currently there are 128 active memberships and 39 inactive memberships. She is actively emailing membership renewals. In January she will send a renewal request to every membership that has expired.

XI. Newsletter

Darlene Pilcher was absent but previously stated that the deadline for newsletter articles is October 31st. Mary Welken requested that people send recommended titles to her for the November newsletter.

XII. Publicity

Suzanne Carter is currently working on the Anniversary Celebration so did not submit articles to the newspapers. She always shares information from FOLTC and Towns County Libraries to the FOLTC Facebook page.

XIII. Old Business

a. VP position – this position is still vacant. This need will be shared in the November newsletter and at the Anniversary Luncheon before the election of officers.

b. Copyright issue – The attorney who was contacted and agreed to write a letter for us decided that he would not be willing to do so. After Mary Welken got legal advice from another attorney, it was decided by the members present to do nothing unless another letter is received demanding money. This attorney suggested that we not respond or send any money at this time.

c. Dehumidifier in storage shed – Marcia Aunspaugh reported that the dehumidifier is working fine now after she and her husband Dick cleared debris from the outside of the shed and MRLS staff removed some of the stored items. The shed is staying drier now that leaves and other debris are not against the outside wall.

d. Presentation to Beta Delta Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa – Mary Welken was asked to speak to this group of educators about FOLTC. After her presentation some of the members made donations to FOLTC totaling \$260. She also handed out membership forms to the people present. A copy of the report she shared is included for the record.

XIV. New Business

a. 26th Anniversary Committee – Suzanne Carter and Barbara Hale reported on the plans for the anniversary luncheon. Barbara arranged for a caterer to cater a luncheon on Monday, December 12, noon, at the Fellowship Hall at Sharp Memorial UMC for \$12 per person. Mary Welken has volunteered to provide paper products for the luncheon. Suzanne Carter will print name tags.

The committee suggested that the following people be invited as guests: Theresa Haymore, Donna Howell, Debbie Phillips, Marlene Cannon, Janice Cochran, John and Jan Roberts, Marilyn Pierce, Roberta Young, Doris Tilly, Heath Lee, Bill Kendall, and Cliff Bradshaw (including spouses). Elaine Roberts moved that these people (plus one) be invited as guests of FOLTC. Marcia Aunspaugh seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Suzanne created invitations for the guests; Judith Lee will mail the invitations. Suzanne created an invitation for Friends to be posted on the website and on Facebook. Rose Carter created an announcement with payment slip that will be emailed to members with email addresses. A paper copy will be mailed to those without email by Judith Lee. Reservations and payment must be received by December 1, 2022.

Mary Welken and Doris Tilly will welcome and introduce the guests, and Doris will give a brief history of FOLTC. No additional program has been decided. Election of officers will be held at the end of the luncheon.

b. Nominating Committee – No one volunteered to serve on the nominating committee. Current officers and committee chairs present were asked if they would agree to be nominated for another year; they agreed. Mary will contact those who were not present. The need for a Vice President will be shared in the newsletter, on the website, and on the Facebook page.

c. Additional topics – Judith Lee, Corresponding Secretary, expressed the fact that she has few letters to send as corresponding secretary. Judith and Rose Carter, Membership Chair, will discuss and adjust the parameters of thank you letters sent to members. There were also opinions expressed about the need for a coupon for a free book to new members. No decision was made.

Barbara Hale offered to serve as Member at Large for 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m. by President Mary Welken.
The next meeting will be Monday, December 12, 2022 at Sharp Memorial UMC in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Carter, Publicity Chair,
in the absence of Kathy Day, Recording Secretary

APPROVED December 12, 2022