

LONESOME PINE REGIONAL LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MAY 6, 2021

PRESENT: Mr. Lu Ellsworth  
Mrs. Roberta Smallwood  
Ms. Ginnie Stokes  
Mr. Chris Allgyer  
Mrs. Ruth Gilliam  
Ms. Jennifer Meade  
Ms. Carolea Newsome  
Ms. Sheila Phipps

ABSENT: Ms. Rebecca Scott  
Mrs. Earlene Lester  
Mr. Jack Lewis

Others Present: Julie Short, Onedah Stanley, and Debbie Yates.

The regular meeting of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, May 6, 2021 in the Harris Art Gallery at the Wise County Public Library.

Chairman Ellsworth called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

I. Mr. Allgyer made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Ms. Meade seconded and the agenda was approved.

II. There were no citizens to speak.

III. Mrs. Gilliam made a motion to approve the April 1, 2021 minutes as presented. Mrs. Smallwood seconded and the motion passed.

IV. Mrs. Smallwood presented the financial report. The printout of monthly payables for April 2021 and financial statements were distributed. After discussion, Ms. Stokes made a motion to approve the financial report. Mrs. Gilliam seconded and the motion passed.

The following check numbers were reported:

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>
General Fund	41275	41356

V. Library Director's Report

**Grants -**

- Ms. Short advised that a substantial reimbursement request has been submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Science (IMLS) training grant for equipment expenditures and tuition costs for the staff education and technology courses. A short discussion of the progression of the courses ensued.
- Ms. Short demonstrated a new chat program called LibraryH3lp that is being implemented into our website in the next two weeks. The "Ask a Librarian" feature allows library staff to chat with patrons about reference questions in real time. This is a grant-funded service provided through IMLS.

- The Library of Virginia subgrant ends in September. Due to lower than projected costs, administration is working on a revised spending proposal. This process has been a collaborative and cooperative partnership. Expenditures include hotspots, tablets, laptops, equipment, crafting supplies and cleaning supplies used throughout our library system. Also, a mobile unit has been purchased to provide hotspots and potential Storytime and Summer Reading programming at various outreach locations.
- The RAPHA Foundation Grant funds awarded to the Friends of Lonesome Pine Regional Library Corporation has provided materials, supplies and equipment for children's programming in the Wise and Dickenson County libraries. Ms. Short and Mr. Allgyer will finalize expenditures before the end of May.
- The National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) Big Read Grant 2021 was awarded to LPRL. Typically held in the spring, the NEA postponed events until September due to COVID-19 issues. The Harris Art Gallery, in partnership with LRPL, has confirmed that it will host the artwork of illustrator Charles Vess. More details will be forthcoming.
- The Gibbs Foundation awarded a grant request to the Big Stone Gap library. Plans are underway for a pop-up library for startup with the Summer Reading program in June 2021.

#### **Administrative -**

- A revised Budget for the Expenditure of State Aid for LPRL was recently submitted to and received by LVA.
- LPRL's Application for State Aid for FY2022 was submitted and has been received by LVA.
- LPRL has received a letter of funding commitment from E-Rate for FY2022.
- LVA allowed for carryover of state aid funds for the first time this year due to pandemic issues. LPRL managers created lists of expenditures for our libraries to continue to serve the public in keeping with state mandates as well as purchase items of long lasting value. Replacement of well-used furniture and equipment in addition to items to enhance various display and programming areas were made.
- ProArt has provided a link for Lonesome Pine Regional Library from their website, made possible through a partnership with them, championed by our Digital Coordinator, Kara Dotten.
- The Slemple bookcase glass replacement project at the Big Stone Gap library is complete.

#### **Programming Highlights -**

- National Library Week, celebrated April 4-10, was successful both in-person and in our virtual presence. Ms. Short described some of the initiatives.
- Children's Book Week is celebrated this week, May 3-9, with various activities scheduled.
- Our adult book club and crafting programs are popular with in-person attendance increasing.

#### **Donations -**

- Wise County Recreation Authority representative members gave a donation of \$1000 to the Wise Library and \$500 to the St. Paul Library.

This concluded the director’s report and discussion ensued. Chairman Ellsworth and other trustees commended Ms. Short for the remarkable work done this year despite COVID-19 complications. Ms. Stokes noted that she felt that the virtual meetings helped people not feel so isolated during the quarantine periods. Ms. Short expressed her appreciation to the trustees for their guidance and support. She expressed her gratitude to all the library staff for their effort, support and cooperation in all the library initiatives.

Materials distributed in trustee board packs -

- Account Payables for April 2021
- Financials for August - December 2020
- Board of Trustees List of Members & Terms
- Spring/Summer Books-By-Mail Catalog
- Monthly Branch Stats Reports for March & April 2021

VI. Reports of Committees - None

VII There was no unfinished business.

VIII. Ms. Short announced that the Library of Virginia has notified its members of the Virginia General Assembly’s approval of Juneteenth as a state holiday during its 2021 session. Discussion ensued with respect to inclusion in LPRL’s holiday schedule. Mr. Allgyer made a motion to observe June 19 designated as Juneteenth as a holiday for Lonesome Pine Regional Library and, in accordance with LPRL’s holiday policy, the library will be closed Friday, June 18, and Saturday, June 19, in observance of the Juneteenth holiday in 2021. Ms. Stokes seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Short asked for board input for proposed June meeting dates concerning a regular monthly meeting as well as a budget meeting. After discussion, Ms. Newsome made a motion to have one meeting to be held on June 29 at the Big Stone Gap library. Mr. Allgyer seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Short noted that Mrs. Gilliam’s tenure on LPRL’s board of trustees will expire at the end of June and plans for her retirement reception were discussed.

No further business was discussed. Ms. Meade made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Gilliam seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

---

Secretary

---

Chairman