

LONESOME PINE REGIONAL LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AUGUST 5, 2021

PRESENT: Mr. Lu Ellsworth
Mrs. Roberta Smallwood
Mr. Chris Allgyer
Mrs. Ethel Daniels
Mrs. Earlene Lester
Ms. Jennifer Meade
Ms. Carolea Newsome
Ms. Tammy Scott

ABSENT: Mr. Jack Lewis
Ms. Sheila Phipps
Ms. Rebecca Scott

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, August 5, 2021, in the Harris Art Gallery at the Wise County Public Library.

Chairman Ellsworth called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He welcomed all to the meeting and recognized the two new trustee appointments - Ms. Tammy Scott from Lee County and Mrs. Ethel Daniels from the City of Norton.

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

The election of 2021-2022 officers was commenced by Mr. Allgyer acting on behalf of the Nominating Committee (Allgyer, Phipps and R. Scott). He presented the Committee's nominations for officers as follows:

- ❖ Chair – Lu Ellsworth
- ❖ Vice Chair/Secretary – Jennifer Meade
- ❖ Treasurer – Roberta Smallwood

There were no additions or modifications from the floor. Mrs. Lester made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers for FY2021-2022. Ms. Newsome seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

II. There were no citizens to speak.

III. Mrs. Smallwood made a motion to approve the June 29, 2021 minutes as distributed. Mrs. Lester seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Mrs. Smallwood presented the financial report. Printouts of monthly payables for the month of July 2021 and financial statements were distributed. After discussion, Mr. Allgyer made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Ms. Meade seconded and the motion carried.

The following check numbers were reported:

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>
General Fund	41487	41585

V. Ms. Short welcomed everyone to the first board meeting of the new fiscal year and also extended a welcome to the newly appointed trustees. General introductions were made by all. She also noted that Ms. Phipps has been reappointed by Dickenson County for another term.

Administration Highlights -

- The Friends of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library Corporation was awarded a second grant from The Rapha Foundation in June. The Foundation funds will be used to purchase materials for a “healthy kids, healthy future” component for children’s programming in Wise and Dickenson counties.
- Books and materials ordering is underway for budgeted amounts in accordance with the FY2021-2022 budget recently approved by the board.
- LPRL managers were able to meet in-person in July for a regularly scheduled meeting. Ms. Short reported on their productive discussions and planning from the meeting.
- An NEA Big Read Planning Committee has been organized to prepare for the October event. The committee is charged with presenting programming ideas featuring this year’s fantasy theme.
- Ms. Short updated trustees on the partnership of Mountain Empire Community College Library and LPRL with the Town of Appalachia to fulfill a small library in the former Appalachia Elementary School. MECC is providing computers and LPRL is providing paperback books for patron checkout. Books are being provided from our extensive paperback collection through the mailbox library service. An Open House is planned for Saturday, August 14, and an invitation was extended to all trustees. Ms. Short is working with MECC in promoting this partnership and event.

Regional Outreach

- LPRL, led by our Digital Coordinator Ms. Dotten, partnered with the Pro-Art Association to host a program at UVA-Wise College called “Expedition to India.” Ms. Short shared photos from the event in her visual presentation.
- Ms. Short reported on the progress of the new LPRL Traveling Tales mobile unit. LPRL is partnering with the local Housing Authorities to provide Wi-Fi hotspots and occasional “mini reading sessions” at designated outreach locations.
- Administrative staff is working on implementation of the 2021-2022 budget.
- LPRL is expected to receive approximately \$62,500 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funds administered through the Library of Virginia. Our plan of use included items to continue or further enhance our electronic presence including hotspot connectivity continuation, Wi-Fi upgrades for all our libraries, three new computers and a delivery van to help with outreach and delivery of library materials. LVA approval is pending.

Upcoming Initiatives

- Administrative staff is ordering furniture and equipment in accordance with FY2021-2022's budget.
- Administration and managers are devising outreach plans as well as planning for Fall programming.
- LPRL's website will begin featuring new databases provided through the Library of Virginia and/or ARPA grant funds. Ms. Short invited trustees to explore them.
- Administrative staff continues to monitor deadlines and submit required documentation to LVA.

Ms. Short shared photos from all libraries depicting various events and activities as programming reopens, new furniture and display enhancements, building repairs, and landscaping improvements. She expressed her gratitude for all the funding sources provided for these endeavors such as the RAPHA Foundation, the Friends of the Library groups, and the Library of Virginia.

There was a brief discussion of the successful Harris Gallery art exhibit held on July 31. The exhibit featured 11 local photographers' work, including LPRL trustee - Ms. Meade. Chairman Ellsworth commented on how good it is to see regular programming making a comeback.

Ms. Short discussed a cooling unit issue the Wise Public Library is experiencing. Ms. Short thanked Wise County for taking on the project and expenditure for the library. The County has advised Ms. Short of a possible mid-September installation date due to manufacturing and delivery delays. As outdoor temperatures soar, the front desk area of the library gets progressively unbearable toward the end of the day for patrons and the staff. The likelihood of some early closures for the library will become inevitable if the unusually high temperatures continue, especially if a mask mandate is enacted.

VI. In accordance with the LPRL By-Laws, Chairman Ellsworth asked for nominations of members to the Executive Committee. The chairman and Ms. Short gave a brief history of the Executive Committee for benefit of new trustees and reminded the board of the current members of the Executive Committee.

Chairman Ellsworth asked for nominations for a member from Dickenson County. Mr. Allgyer nominated Ms. Newsome and Mrs. Smallwood seconded.

Chair asked for nominations for a Lee County representative. Mrs. Smallwood nominated Ms. Tammy Scott. Ms. Newsome seconded.

Chair asked for nominations for a representative from Scott County. Mrs. Smallwood nominated Ms. Jennifer Meade; seconded by Mr. Allgyer.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

The Executive Committee is comprised of the following members for 2021-2022:

- Julie Short - Library Director
- Lu Ellsworth - Wise County representative
- Ethel Daniels - City of Norton representative
- Carolea Newsome - Dickenson County representative
- Tammy Scott - Lee County representative
- Jennifer Meade - Scott County representative

VII. No Unfinished Business

VIII. Due to recent staff changes at the Rose Hill Public Library, signatory updates need to be made to their miscellaneous income bank account. A standard letter to the bank identifying the changes approved by the Board was presented for the Chairman's signature. Ms. Meade made a motion authorizing the signatory updates for the Rose Hill Public Library's banking account to include Audrey Evans as the manager replacing Lela Johnson as well as retaining Julie Short, Library Director, as a signatory. Mr. Allgyer seconded; the motion carried.

No further business was discussed. Ms. Meade made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All signified by rising. The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.



 Secretary



 Chairman