

LONESOME PINE REGIONAL LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOVEMBER 4, 2021

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

ABSENT: Ms. Rebecca Scott
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, November 4, 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. Mrs. Daniels made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda. Mr. Allgyer seconded and the agenda was adopted as presented.

II. There were no citizens to speak.

III. Ms. T. Scott made a motion to approve the October 7, 2021 minutes as distributed. Ms. Newsome seconded and the motion carried.

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

The following check numbers were reported:

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>
General Fund	41714	41789

V. Ms. Short discussed the NEA Big Read event which was held throughout the month of October. She thanked the LPRL staff and the library communities for participating in the event. She also thanked Ms. Robinette and the Harris Gallery Board for displaying works by local artist, L. M. Sutter, as a representation of this year's fantasy theme of the Big Read.

Ms. Short shared a video presentation created by Ms. Kara Dotten, LPRL Digital Coordinator, in collaboration with our branch staff, showcasing the NEA Big Read events held throughout the libraries. She noted that the video is also representative of the new skills the staff has acquired through participation in the ETSU Adobe classes. The video and events were well received by the trustees. Ms. Short expressed her pride in the library staff's ability to provide events that brought their communities together. Group discussion ensued.

Administration Highlights

- Administrative staff continues to work toward completion of reports in regards to the ARPA grant, NEA Big Read, and IMLS training grant.
- Since October's board meeting, two grant requests were submitted to the Lee County Community Foundation on behalf of the Pennington Gap Library. The first request is earmarked for upgrading the library's meeting room furniture. A second smaller request option was made for funds to purchase materials to enhance their adult programming.
- Ms. Short reminded the board of the upgrade to LPRL's circulation and cataloging service scheduled for November 11. A short disruption of service is anticipated and has been announced to the public. Administrative staff are working with The Library Corporation staff regarding training to coordinate this endeavor.
- The local Health Department has recently invited LPRL to participate in discussions to become a possible public COVID-19 test kit distribution site. Since this is a recent ongoing development, Ms. Short will share updates with the trustees at the next board meeting.
- Ms. Short expressed great pride in the LPRL staff for their efforts and accomplishments during another challenging year. She noted again the greatest current challenge for the library is staffing levels and maintaining operational hours. Several vacancies have been advertised with minimal response. She will continue to work toward filling the vacancies and provide updates to the trustees.
- Upon notification by the Library of Virginia that one of the local counties has scored poorly for kindergarten readiness, LVA will work with LPRL to bring libraries to the forefront as a solution. Plans have been initiated to revitalize our children's programs. We will work to encourage parents to come to our libraries for their kindergarten readiness needs for their families. Ms. Short will continue to share updates on the new marketing information which is expected to begin in Spring 2022.

Discussion ensued. Chairman Ellsworth noted awareness of the staff's willingness to keep the facilities open during challenging times and expressed the board's appreciation. He encouraged trustees to start considering innovative ways for the library to overcome some of the staffing and operations issues then recommended a possible retreat meeting to further those discussions for the Fall of 2022.

The Mailbox Library Fall/Winter 2021 booklet, Financial Statements for the months of May, June and July, October Accounts Payable, and October Public Use Statistics were distributed to Trustees.

VI. Reports of Committees - None

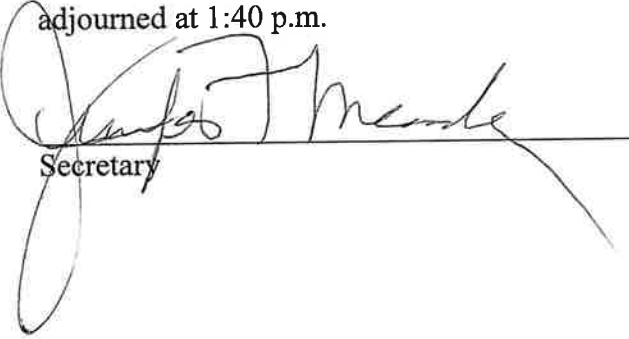
VII. No Unfinished Business

VIII. 1. The Friends of Haysi Community Library group is requesting approval for a fundraiser. The Friends will offer handcrafted wooden Christmas ornaments to sell during the holiday season. The ornaments will be displayed on a Christmas tree at the library for sale for \$4.00 per ornament. A picture of the ornament was distributed in the board packs. All money raised will be deposited into the Friends' bank account and will be used to support craft workshops and other library programs. Ms. Newsome made a motion to approve the fundraiser as presented. Mrs. Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

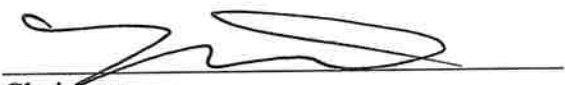
2. Mr. Allgyer made a motion to enter into Closed Session in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, pursuant to Code Section 2.2-3711 Paragraph (A) (4), Privacy of Individuals exemption, and requested the presence of Mrs. Julie Short, Library Director. Mrs. Lester seconded; the motion carried. Mr. Allgyer made a motion to return to open session; seconded by Ms. Lester. Open Session was resumed by all Trustees voting in the affirmative for Certificate of Closed Session.

No further business was discussed.

Mrs. Smallwood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. T. Scott seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.



Secretary



Chairman