

LONESOME PINE REGIONAL LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FEBRUARY 3, 2022

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

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

The regular meeting of the Lonesome Pine Regional Library Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, February 3, 2022 in the Harris Art Gallery at the Wise County Public Library.

Chairman Ellsworth welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He introduced Ms. Martha Jett, the Wise County appointee to fill Mr. Lewis' vacancy.

I. Mrs. Daniels made a motion to adopt the agenda as distributed. Ms. Lester seconded and the agenda was adopted.

II. There were no citizens to speak.

III. Ms. T. Scott made a motion to approve the December 16, 2021 minutes as presented. Mr. Allgyer seconded and the motion carried.

IV. 1. Mrs. Smallwood reported that monthly payables had been reviewed. Printouts of monthly payables and financial statements were distributed for Trustee information. After discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Lester to receive the financial report. Mrs. Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

The following check numbers were reported:

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Ending</u>
General Fund	41848	41969

2. The proposed budget for FY2022-2023 was distributed for Trustees review. Ms. Short gave an overview of the proposed budget and a summary of proposed changes. Ms. Stanley, Business Manager, detailed local expenses for the proposed budget. After discussion, Mrs. Daniels made a motion to approve the proposed budget for FY2022-2023 as presented. Ms. Lester seconded and the motion carried.

V. 1. The Director's report began with a slideshow of regional library activities held mid-December through January showcasing programs adult patrons are enjoying, such as craft projects, book signings, and Bingo night.

Administration Highlights

- Ms. Short reported that over 1000 COVID-19 at-home test kits have been distributed system-wide through LPRL's partnership with the Virginia Department of Health. Virginia is currently seeking a vendor who can supply more kits because the program was so successful. Ms. Short commended all of the staff for their assistance with distribution.
- Another successful endeavor with VDH provided an opportunity for mobile vaccine clinics to be conducted outside our libraries in Wise, Big Stone Gap, Lee County and Rose Hill.
- In anticipation of Summer Reading 2022, program materials have been ordered.
- Administrative staff initiatives include budget preparations, E-rate filing deadlines, W-2 reporting, and annual magazine renewals. A grant request for the Gibbs Foundation for 2022 is also being drafted.

Grants

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act -
The Library of Virginia's Dial-A-Story feature is making a comeback and is available throughout Virginia. The feature is made possible through the CARES Act funds. Ms. Short noted that some of LPRL's employees are participating and Ms. Kara Dotten was our first story reader on February 2.
- Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS) grant -
IMLS grant funds have been earmarked for staff training. Ms. Short introduced Ms. Dotten, LPRL Digital Coordinator, to update Trustees on staff training endeavors. Ms. Dotten reported that the grant-funded training will finish with the spring semester and staff is busy preparing to implement what they have learned into the community to help the libraries grow. New outreach programs, community partnerships, and social media campaigns were highlighted. Chairman Ellsworth expressed his pleasure with all of the new outreach and community involvement. He noted a top priority for the Board must be in preserving the library as an essential community partner and service provider. Ms. Short commented on staff accomplishments in outreach endeavors and in partnering with the community to provide needed services.
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant -
Ms. Short explained that the ARPA fund expenditures include contract renewal for our hot spots in the communities for this year. The library will be responsible for the cost of hot spots next year. The hot spots are a popular feature so Ms. Short felt like this will continue to be a necessary service. Also, funds were allocated for our WiFi upgrades of wireless access points, which are at 50% completion with equipment installations but some issues with configuration, and our delivery van remains on order without an expected arrival date.
- RAPHA Foundation -
Again this year, a RAPHA grant has been awarded to the Friends of Lonesome Pine Regional Library Corporation earmarked for children's programming in the Wise and Dickenson county libraries. To date, approximately \$13,000 has been expended for educational learning components to enhance the programs.

Chairman Ellsworth commended the library administration and staff for their accomplishments and expressed his desire for the array of activities to continue.

2. Ms. Kara Dotten presented the 2020-2021 Annual Report to Trustees and highlighted areas of general interest. Discussion ensued. Trustees expressed their overall satisfaction with the report's design and composition.

The following items were distributed in Trustees' folders:

- ❖ Monthly Payables for December 2021 and January 2022.
- ❖ Updated Board of Trustee Members and Addresses.
- ❖ Updated Board of Trustees Term Dates.
- ❖ December 2021 and January 2022 Usage Reports.
- ❖ 2021-2022 Annual Report.

VI. Mr. Allgyer reported that the Friends of Lonesome Pine Regional Library Corporation received a contribution in the amount of \$1,000 in January from Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund, which is a donor-based fund. It was made on behalf of J. D. Gross Charitable Giving. On behalf of the Friends group, Mr. Allgyer expressed his appreciation for the donation.

Mr. Allgyer announced that he would like to postpone today's meeting of the Friends group until March 3.

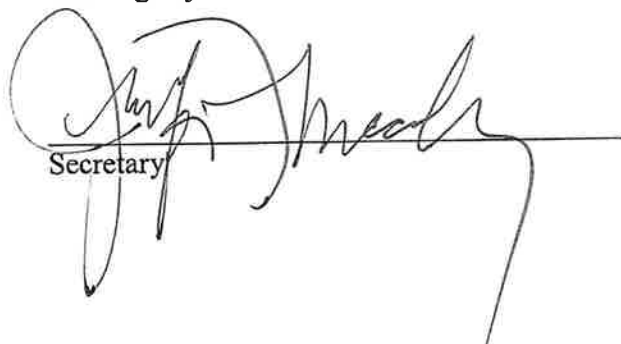
VII. 1. A Health Insurance Proposal Update was distributed in the board packs. The proposal was tabled from the December meeting for further action. Mrs. Daniels presented the updated proposal on behalf of the review team. It is the review team's recommendation that LPRL pay only single coverage for the upcoming fiscal year 2022-23, grandfathering in any employee who is currently enrolled in Dual or Family coverage paid in part by the library. Dual and Family coverage will still be available as options with the employee absorbing those additional costs. After board discussion, Mr. Allgyer made a motion that the recommendation be approved. Ms. Tammy Scott seconded; the motion is approved.

VIII. 1. A fundraising request letter from the Friends of Scott County Public Library was distributed for consideration. The Friends of the Scott County Public Library is requesting permission to hold a "Cutest Pet Contest" fundraiser for the month of February 2022. After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Lester to approve the fundraising request as presented. Mrs. Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

No further business was discussed.

Chairman Ellsworth announced the next board meeting is March 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m. All signified adjournment by rising.


Secretary


Chairman