

**Mountain Regional Library System
Board Meeting of Trustees Meeting
Union County Public Library.
Wednesday August 14, 2019, 10AM**

I. Call to Order and Welcome - Karan Harper, Chairman

Members present - Karen Harper (F), Peggy Deyton (U), Peggy Callaway (U), Stacey Head (U), Nick Wimberley (F), Gordon Riddoch (F), Joan Crothers (T), Paula Whitehead (T), Dionne Berrong (T), Holly Tiger (T)

Staff Present: Claudia Gibson- Interim Director, Debbie Phillips-TCPL, Susie Brendle-UCPL, Vanessa Pittman-FCPL, Vicki Adkison-Business Manager. **Guest:** Ron Bolin former Board Chair, Barbara Hale-TCPL Board Chair, FOLTC Doris Tilly

Minutes- June 12, 2019 Meeting

Minutes- August 1, 2018 Meeting

The minutes of the June 12 and August 1 meeting were sent by email. Nick made motion to approve: seconded and passed.

II. B. Union County Public Library

Susie Brendle reported a total circulation for 4th Quarter FY2019 was 38,570 and total attendance of 35,375. A total of 188 new cards were issued and 661 items were added to the collection. The current checking account balance is \$13,237.96. UCPL has received \$5,918.51 SPLOST funds since January and \$1700 from FOUCL. A very successful Summer Reading Program was celebrated on July 22nd with a Pizza party. There were 180 children and teens enrolled in the program. Total attendance was 1521 compared to last year's total of 980. FOUCL donated \$1000 in the Spring to use toward SRP supplies, materials and two entertainers. They will be hosting a special program on September 18th at 2PM called "Genealogy and Family Heirlooms: Writing Their Stories." FOUCL will have their "Everything Christmas" sale on November 1st & 2nd. Georgia Mountain Falconry will be returning to the library to present their program "An Introduction to Falconry" on Friday, September 13th at 1PM. They will bring owls, falcons and hawks.

III. Fannin County Public Library

Vanessa Pitman reported a total circulation for 4th Quarter FY2019 was 23,444 with a total attendance of 13,164. A total of 247 new cards were issued with a 10.8% increase. 127 completed the Summer Reading Program. There were 38 Kids who read 100+ books. Summer Reading overall attendance was 1,243 with a 10% increase. A total of 6,857 books were read up from last year's total of 2,625. Adding more incentives made a huge difference. (161.2% increase).

Personal: Due to health reason, Ginia Wood, has stepped down from her position as Branch Manager of Fannin Co. Library. Vanessa Pittman was made Interim Librarian for 3 months.

After evaluations, Vanessa will become Branch Manager. Catherine Burr has replaced Rosemary Flynn.

Some of the great performers in the Summer Reading Program included Jeffini's Reading Blast off Magic Show, Hampstead Stage Company(performing The Jungle Book), MRL Puppet Co., and Fiddlin' Dan. This year teen/tween events were introduced which included, kindness painting rocks, pour painting , and out of this world slime making. The Library showed four inside movies that were well attended.

Community presence included hosting two Reading-to a-Dog events which the children really enjoyed. Ms. Meryl Page, who works for US. Census, came to the library to give information on 2020 Census. Starbucks in Blue Ridge has contacted the library in hopes of a joint collaboration with a popup storytime at a Starbucks once a month.

C. Towns County Public Library

Debbie Phillips reported a total circulation for 4th Quarter FY2019 was 9304 and a total attendance of 9842, 71 new cards issued , 12 hikers used computers. Balance in Checking Account is \$1,189.75. Storytime began with traditional tie-dye-t-shirts with 83 people attending. Week 2 - puppet show and FOL Bake Sale with 100 people attending. Week 3- Hampstead Stage Co. performed "Stories in the Stars," next they moved to "The Porch" and had fun making bath bombs and slime. This was enjoyed by 73 people. Week 4- a fun show was presented by Ventriloquist Marc Griffiths - 81 people attended. Summer Reading Program had 67 children sign up. They turned in reading logs to earn "Gold Space Coins" which could be spent at the "Space Center" store. In August there will be a Meet & Greet with Betty Rafter and book discussions with people who read Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens and Educated by Tara Westover.

VI. Director's Report - Claudia Gibson (Interim Director)

A. Quarterly Financial Statement & Balance Sheet

The Quarterly financial statement was presented, discussed and approved.

B. Authorize Vicki to receive all financials and access to banking. Remove Casey and Lynn.

A motion was made to give Vickie Adkison(Business Manager) and Claudia Gibson (Interim Director) full authorization to all financial records and access to banking including the signing of checks for Mountain Regional Library, and to remove Casey Hunley and Lynn Barlett's records. Joan Crothers made a motion to approve both; seconded and passed.

The children's program under Marlene's supervision has shown solid growth and getting great feedback. Average attendance last summer was 18-22 per week.

This year there is an attendance of 32-45 children per week.

The podcast continues its slow growth with well over 100 downloads per episode- over 1,000 downloads since starting the program. The Potterthon at MRL saw 8 people to through all 8 movies in a 2 day span. It was enjoyed by all.

V. Closed Session:

Paula Whitehead made a motion to go into Closed Session; seconded and passed.

A. Reopen Session

Peggy Deyton made a motion to go out of Closed Session: seconded and passed.

B. Other Reports

A motion was made to consolidate all checking accounts and financial information.

Paula Whitehead made a motion to approve; seconded and passed.

VII. Old Business

A. Cancel staff development day. Remain closed and give a 4 day weekend.

Joan Crothers made a motion to approve: seconded and passed.

VIII. New Business

A. AUP Engagement Letter

B. State budget cuts 4% this and 6% next year- State money

C. Closed Dates- Joan Crothers made motion to approve; seconded and passed.

D. Board Training-dates will be emailed

E. Terms of Office- A "Roster of Board of Trustees" was given to each Member

F. Board of Election- Paula Whitehead - Board Chair, Dionne Berrong- Vice Board Chair, Joan Crothers- Secretary. Stacey Head made a motion to approve; seconded and passed.

IX. Public Comments

Doris Tilly, FOTCL, gave reports of their successful fund-raisers and activities.

X. Adjournment

Gordon made a motion to adjourn; seconded and passed.

Peggy Callaway, Secretary