

Draft Minutes
MOUNTAIN REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, GA
Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 10 AM

I. Call to Order and Welcome - Ron Bolin, Chairman

Ron Bolin, Chairman, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Members present were Peggy Deyton, Peggy Callaway, Karan Harper, Gordon Riddoch, Joan Crothers, Paula Whitehead, and Ernie Seckinger. Staff present were Vince Stone, Susie Brendle, Debbie Phillips, Clare Barton, and Dyana Costello-Banks. Guests present were Kathy Day, FOLTC Recording Secretary, and Jounida Bradley, Towns Co. Library Chair.

II. Minutes

The minutes had been sent to the board members by email prior to the meeting. Ernie Seckinger suggested that all of the guest that attend the Board Meetings be included in the attendance list. There were no other corrections or additions. Ernie Seckinger made a motion to approve the minutes and Gordon Riddoch seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

III. Director's Report- Vince Stone

A. Renovation - The AV Components for the Community Room and Security Cameras will be installed closer to opening day which will be Monday, November 7th. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be on Saturday, Nov. 5th at 10:00 AM. Mr. Stone is waiting for a sign permit from city of Young Harris. The plans are to place the sign next to the highway for best visibility. **Mountain Regional Puppet Company** - MRPC is scheduled to perform a Christmas show. Rehearsals won't begin until they are moved into the new facility.

Library Director's Meeting - There were two major announcements that will be most beneficial to our library patrons. The first announcement was the addition of Gale Legal Forms to the Galileo platform. The Georgia specific forms will be available to anyone with a library card. The second announcement is the partnership of GPLS with the Michael C. Carlos museum at Emory University in Atlanta.

Free passes will be available for checkout. A partnership with the Georgia Aquarium is in the works.

Staff Day - The staff of MRLS successfully went through a full day of training at Union Co. Library on the weekend of Labor Day. There were special guest speakers invited and updates from the Director and Managers.

Mega Sale- The FOLTC Mega Sale earned just over \$6,000. This will allow \$5,000 to be encumbered for the matching commissioner's grant in 2017.

The MRL branch has conducted several successful children's programs.

In 2017, MRL plans to include a dynamic and exciting program for adults. This programming will include clubs, movie nights, activities and host of special guest speakers and performers. A committee of current librarian staff will be responsible for its design and implementation.

B. 1st Quarter Balance Sheet - Vince Stone

Copies of the Balance Sheet were distributed and discussed by Mr. Stone. Total Liabilities and Fund Balance is \$100,615.03.

Ernie Seckinger moved to approve the report and Karan Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. Branch Library Reports

A. Towns Co. Public Library - Debbie Phillips

Mrs. Phillips reported the circulation for the 1st Quarter was 9,967 and the attendance was 10,723. The library has been very busy this fall. On Sept. 15th, there was a book signing by Reinhold Kerstan from 2:00PM until 4:00PM. They were excited to have Dyana back for computer skills classes for patrons. Oct. 4th, June Gottlieb held a card making workshop for adults from 1:00PM to 4:00PM. She also did a card making workshop for children on Oct. 17th.

B. Fannin Co. Library - Clare Barton

Ms. Barton reported total circulation for the 1st Quarter was 18,870.

Total attendance was 12,927. The checking balance is \$6,233.90.

Ms. Barton will be attending a state library conference at Unicoi on planning a new library later this month. Two of the full time employees took their week vacation and another employee will take one in November. Ms. Barton will be out the full week off Thanksgiving.

Many fun and exciting activities are happening at the Fannin Co. Library. The Stitching Club is small, but steady and the Book Club is still

going strong. The Game Board Club meets on the third Thursday of the month. Regular story time resumed in August. The last County Commissioner's meeting, on Tuesday Oct. 25, 2016 was the budget workshop. Ms. Barton's request for a \$20,000 increase went as well as could be hoped with on comments or questions from the Commissioners. Dyana is back to help patrons with computer skills. On December 8th, Friends of the Library are having a Holiday Open House.

C. Union Co. Library- Susie Brendle

Mrs. Brendle reported total circulation for the 1st quarter FY 17 was 47,633. Total attendance was 39,397. Total number of times patron have gone to Facebook to view information has increase 143%. Total income for 1st quarter \$10,884.43 with \$5,000 coming from SPLOST and FOL to reimburse library expenses for books, equipment and periodicals. One large expense was the purchase of a new copier. SPLOST paid for half of the cost, but the library still had to pay \$1299.00. FOUCL donated \$1000.00 to use for periodical renewals and books. One of the staff members has move back to Florida. We are not going to replace her until spring.

FOUCL's 20th Anniversary was held at Choestoe School House on Saturday, September 10th. FOUCL also had a dedication and ribbon cutting on Wednesday, October 19th at 1:30 for Al Garnto's Kinetic Sculpture that was placed at the corner of the library's drive and Hunt Martin Street. This sculpture was purchase with the remaining money in the Deloris Michael Bequest. Blairsville Garden Club will do the landscaping around the sculpture. The Lego Club wrapped up their Fall Schedule on October 26th. It will resume in January on the last Wednesday of the month.

V. Old Business

A. Library Strategic Plan Update Discussion-Ernie Seckinger

Mr. Seckinger suggested that we may need to go to a paid survey which will be around \$300 a year. He suggested the Branch Managers and Director manage the surveys. It was suggested that the survey start up February - April 2017. FOL would also like to use the survey. We will revisit the survey questions and tweak them.

VI. New Business

A. Thanksgiving Hours

Mr. Stone recommended that the libraries be closed on Wednesday, (Nov.23 before Thanksgiving and on Nov. 11 Veterans Day. Mr. Seckinger made a motion that we except this recommendation and Joan Crothers seconded. The motion passed.

VII. Public Comments

No Public Comments

VIII. Adjournment

All library board meetings are open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Callaway, MRLS Board of Trustees Secretary

