

Scenic Regional Library
Board Minutes – February 15, 2022

Scenic Regional Library Board of Trustees met at the Scenic Regional Library Union Branch on February 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Board President Karen Holtmeyer presided at the meeting. Board members attending the meeting were Martha Lindsley, Kathleen Ham, Michele Fehlings, Robert Niebruegge, John Barry, Susan Richardson, and Carla Robertson. Board members Linda Andrae, Paula Sutton, Laura Hengstenberg, and Joy Dufraim joined the meeting virtually via Zoom. Board member John Cheatham was absent.

Library Director Steven Campbell, Assistant Library Director Megan Maurer, Business and Human Resources Manager Kjersti Merseal, Administrative Assistant Erica Mosley, and five representatives from Marthasville (Mayor David Lange, Terri Ogle, Phyllis Aston, Brenda Daniels, and Jodi Lange) were also present.

Public Comments

The Board moved Unfinished Business to the top of the Agenda, to accommodate the Marthasville group.

Unfinished Business
Marthasville

The representatives from Marthasville again presented their request for a new branch library in their community. Mayor Lange said determining demographics by measuring population within a ten-minute drive of a prospective branch is not applicable to a river bottom region and would rather see a comparison of zip codes. Using this method, he said Marthasville is comparable to New Haven, which already has a branch. He said the library tax is collected within county lines, not city limits, and he would like to see a branch to serve not just Marthasville but all of southern Warren County. Terri Ogle asked to see the results of the online survey the Library sent to patrons in southern Warren County. Director Campbell will email them to her. Phyllis Aston said she doesn't understand the rules and regulations the Board uses to decide where branches go. Director Campbell said the Board's criteria are similar to those used by libraries all over the country. Jodi Lange said it is important for kids in southern Warren County to have better access to library services such as technology, internet access, and meeting space. She would like area children to be able to walk to the library instead of needing to be driven over the bridge to Washington.

Mayor Lange said the Marthasville City Council is offering the two lots in downtown Marthasville to the Library for \$25,000 per lot, discounted from \$40,000 per lot, if the Library will commit to building a branch in the next few years. The Board and Mayor Lange discussed the study of the lots done by Horn Architects, and the three potential designs for the building and parking. Director Campbell said all three were less than ideal, that there would be no room for future expansion, and that a branch on Highway 47, rather than downtown, would be more accessible to the communities surrounding Marthasville. Mayor Lange said the City Council is considering adding additional parking across the highway from the two lots.

Michele Fehlings said it is more logical to place a branch along Highway 47. Susan Richardson said that in her experience children and people in general don't walk to the library even if it is a walkable distance, and that having a library near a school can actually be a hindrance because of behavior issues among unaccompanied children.

The Board and Mayor Lange examined a plat map of Marthasville and discussed potential locations along Highway 47 and out of the floodplain. Director Campbell said he thought the Board would be willing to purchase land in Marthasville, possibly within the next year, to show a commitment to building in the future. Martha Lindsley said a branch would get much more traffic along Highway 47 than in downtown Marthasville.

The Marthasville group left the meeting at 7:42.

Robert Niebruegge made the motion to approve the January 18, 2022 minutes as written. Michele Fehlings seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The motion carried 12/0. **Approval of Minutes**

Director Campbell presented the Financial Report. The Materials budget is still slightly higher than he would like. The Maintenance and Repair line is over due to HVAC issues, dehumidifiers, and a ramp for the mobile kitchen. Supplies are over because of cases for the Chromebooks. Last month's concerns about revenue collection are null; With January revenue the Library has collected 95.5% of its projected revenue, which is the same as this point last year. Rent expense for the Hermann branch will disappear after May.

Financial Report

Carla Robertson made the motion to approve the Financial Report. Susan Richardson seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The motion carried 12/0.

Director Campbell presented the Reports. Carla Robertson thinks the memory kit program is "awesome." John Barry brought a letter from two Warren County patrons who were disappointed in the selection of *Frankenstein* for the Community Read. Director Campbell said next year, a group of representatives from all 9 branch communities will select the Community Read book.

Reports

Carla Robertson asked why the dishonestly policy in the Library's renewed liability insurance coverage package was so high (\$1 million) and the cybersecurity coverage so low (\$250,000). Director Campbell said the Library's broker recommended an increase of the dishonesty policy, which was too low before at \$100,000. He said the cybersecurity coverage is adequate because the Library has very little private information on its own servers; as a member of Missouri Evergreen all its patron data is housed on the consortium's servers.

Martha Lindsley left the meeting at 8:00.

Director Campbell said he sent out a new survey to staff yesterday about the mask requirement for staff. With 67 responding so far, 43.3% are in favor of continuing the requirement, and 56.7% would like to end it.

Administration is working with the Red Cross to organize a blood drive in Wright City and Warrenton, possibly this summer.

Assistant Director Maurer presented a new program to the Board: distributing medication lockboxes and gun locks at the library. The Library has partnered with Foundations for Franklin County and PreventEd. Five coalitions in Franklin and Warren Counties are giving the Library \$5,000 to purchase the lockboxes and gun locks, which will be distributed to the public at all nine Library branches. Timer caps for medicine bottles and Deterra drug deactivation pouches will also be distributed, too. Assistant Director Maurer said Franklin County has an epidemic of opioid overdoses. There is a national prescription take-back day in April, so she plans to launch the program in April. Karen Holtmeyer approved, saying the Library is a more neutral territory to visit for these services than the police department.

There was no New Business.

New Business

Carla Robertson made the motion to move to Executive Session. John Barry seconded the motion.

**Closed Session –
RSMo 610.021 (2)
Real Estate**

There was a roll call vote to move into Executive Session: Karen Holtmeyer—Aye, Carla Robertson—Aye, Kathleen Ham—Aye, John Barry—Aye, Robert Niebruegge—Aye, Susan Richardson—Aye, Michele Fehlings—Aye, Paula Sutton—Aye, Joy Dufrain—Aye, Laura Hengstenberg—Aye, Linda Andrae—Aye.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:20 pm.

There was a roll call vote to move out of Executive Session: Karen Holtmeyer—Aye, Carla Robertson—Aye, Kathleen Ham—Aye, John Barry—Aye, Robert Niebruegge—Aye, Susan Richardson—Aye, Michele Fehlings—Aye, Paula Sutton—Aye, Joy Dufrain—Aye, Laura Hengstenberg—Aye, Linda Andrae—Aye.

The Library Board returned from Executive Session at 8:39 pm.

There being no further business, Board President Karen Holtmeyer adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

Adjourn

Secretary

Approved: _____
President, Scenic Regional Library Board of Trustees

Date: _____