

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Lafayette Public Library Board of Control

February 17, 2020

The regular meeting of the Lafayette Public Library Board of Control was held in the meeting room on the 3rd floor of the Main Library at 301 West Congress Street on February 17, 2020. Andrew Duhon, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:16 PM.

I. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Andrew Duhon, President; Adele Blue; Nora Stelly; Doug Palombo; Rebekke Miller

Board Members Absent: Yung-Hsing Wu, Vice – President; Hilda Edmond; Joan Wingate

Other Staff Present: Teresa Elbersen, Director; Terry Roy, Library Administrator; Larry Angelle, Library Operations Manager; Danielle Breaux, Director’s Executive Secretary

Members of the Public: Leigh Rachal; Kim Boudreaux

II. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2020 Regular Board Meeting was made by Rebekke Miller and seconded by Adele Blue.

Yeas: Duhon, Blue, Stelly, Palombo, Miller

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Wu, Edmond, Wingate

III. Comments from the Library Board

A. Lafayette Public Library Foundation report

Nora Stelly announced a course shift in the Foundation's mission, leaning more toward advocacy rather than fund raising. The Foundation will be funding an awareness campaign for the library system ahead of the next millage renewal. The new Foundation website is up and running. It is user-friendly and there are ways to donate and become a member online. The awards luncheon will be held on April 17, 2020 at River Ranch.

IV. Director's Report and Comments

Staff changes were announced to the board.

Bookmobile vendor LDV recently released a blog post about the Go Go Biblio Bookmobile.

Nine staff members and one library board member will be attending the PLA conference in Nashville being held February 25-29.

The 2020 Lafayette Reads Together program is going well. A successful author visit was held February 11. Neal Shusterman, the author of Dry, also visited Southside High School and Northside High School. Teresa Elberson attended the joint council meeting on February 4 and invited council members to participate in LRT. All council members received a copy of the book with a list of activities surrounding this year's title. All Bayouland libraries have been invited to join LPL next year with the community read. It could then be promoted as a regional event.

The state civil service sexual harassment training is now available for those that need to link in remotely to complete the training. The link was provided to board members.

Finding Gobi was the Lafayette Reads Together book for 2019. Dion Leonard, author, was invited back for another program in January 2020. He brought his wife and dog Gobi along with him and they stayed in Louisiana to do programs for other libraries. Gobi and Dion participated in the Krewe de Chiens parade on February 15. Library staff also walked in the parade handing out dog books and beads.

BookTalks and monthly branch reports were included in packets.

Larry Angelle stated that as of February 1, 10.4M had been collected in revenues and 3.8 had been spent.

At the parish council meeting Tuesday, February 18th, the League of Women Voters – Lafayette will make a case to the council to get to work on opening an additional early voting site. Broussard and Youngsville have the highest number of early voters in the parish. Officials in those communities are now looking for places with easier access and parking. The registrar of voters and others will be looking at the East Regional Library.

V. Construction and Facilities Update

Teresa Elberson and Terry Roy will be meeting with Maureen Arndt at the PLA conference to discuss the North Regional Library project and timetables. The next step will be for her to make a site visit and conduct community meetings for the North East Regional Library.

The architect for the South Regional Library project has been given approval by Public Works to continue to Design Development. Larry Angelle, Terry Roy, and Teresa Elberson are reviewing a first draft of the furniture layout for the South Expansion Project. Changes need to be made as there was no shelving put into the project. The furniture is over budget. A formal review with the architects and Denelle Wrightson is planned for March.

The Milton Branch has been closed to start on a refresh project. It is expected to be closed for three weeks and reopen on March 9. On Saturday, February 15, a team of library staff members loaded the collection on to moving company book trucks and removed all furniture and equipment from the branch. Painters started Monday, February 17 and will need two weeks to prime and paint walls and ceilings. New carpet will be installed the first week of March. Shelving and material will be moved in afterward. Furniture is being repurposed and expenses should be minimal.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion on the location of North East Regional Library

Andrew Duhon reiterated that a bid process was needed, as there is no property being donated. This will follow LCG guidelines.

VII. New Business

A. Library Book Discards

A motion for the library to discard 1343 books having been out of use for over a year due to the books being superseded, obsolete, unused, or otherwise unnecessary was made by Doug Palombo and seconded by Nora Stelly.

Yeas: Duhon, Blue, Stelly, Palombo, Miller

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Wu, Edmond, Wingate

Before moving on, Teresa Elberson announced that copies of the 2020, 2021, and 2022 election schedules were included in packets.

B. Statistics for FY 18/19

FY 18/19 statistics are not yet complete. Teresa Elberson presented first quarter statistics including November 2019, December 2019, and January 2020. She provided an explanation of some of the statistics for the benefit of the new board members.

VIII. Announcements

- A. Reminder that the next Library Board meeting will be Monday, March 16, 2020.
- B. Reminder that yearly ethics training and sexual harassment training must be completed before December 31, 2020.
- C. LLA registration is open. The conference is in Lafayette, March 25-27, 2020.

IX. Comments from the public on any other matter not on this agenda

Leigh Rachal, the Executive Director of the Acadiana Regional Coalition on Homelessness & Housing spoke on changes to the LPL Patron Behavior Policy. Specifically, she asked about *ff. bringing into the library building bedrolls or blankets, clothing in plastic trash bags, framed backpacks, suitcases*. She asked if there was opportunity to discuss the policy.

Andrew Duhon suggested a continuation of the conversation at a later date.

Kim Boudreaux, the Executive Director at Catholic Charities of Acadiana, spoke of the need for the homeless population to keep their belongings with them at all times.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Teresa Elberson, Secretary