

York County Library
Board of Trustees
Minutes from
February 25, 2021
Fort Mill Library

The YCL board meeting was called to order by Chair Tamara Osborne. A quorum was determined with the following in attendance: Wendi Michael, Sally Goodson, Nik Bramblett and Joy Price in person; Debra Dahlin, Pam Cato, and Charles Robinson via ZOOM. Also attending were Library Director Jason Hyatt and Finance Manager Lee Smith. Friends of the Library President Terry Plumb attended via Zoom.

The meeting agenda and January minutes were approved. (Osborne/Bramblett)
(Osborne/Goodson)

Director's Reports

Circulation Statistics

As expected during the events of the pandemic, most categories are down. The exception is the Virtual Library, which is up over 13% since this time last year. The State Library has obtained a grant allowing them to issue State Park free entry passes (constructed of durable material) to each public library system in the state. Each library branch will have one pass which can be checked out by patrons for a to-be-determined time limit.

Virtual Staff Day

Jason Hyatt described the content of the virtual staff training day presented by experts in the fields of Communication & Conflict and Customer Service. All staff were able to be updated on the Budget for the coming year.

Online Card Renewal

To accommodate patrons whose library card needs to be renewed, an online link will allow them to do so without coming into the library building.

Programming

Team Discord Server offers a platform where verified library card holders can meet online for structured activities. The night before our meeting, a group of teenagers logged in to play "Are You Smarter Than a Librarian." The teens challenged three library administrators in a trivia contest. Director Hyatt reports that yes, they were. (Smarter Than the Librarians)

Library Beautification Projects Update

Replacement of the HVAC system at Fort Mill Branch is complete. The beautification project (new circulation desk, new carpet, new shelf ends) was completed while the branch was closed for the HVAC project. Fort Mill will reopen on Monday, March 1.

Lake Wylie Branch will close the second week of March for updates and enhancements.

A date has not been established, but the next project will be bathroom updates and new carpet at the Rock Hill Branch.

Overdue Fines/Fees Proposal

Many of the larger library systems and smaller county libraries in South Carolina have dropped overdue fines for all patrons. York County Library adopted a “no fees” policy for juvenile library cards last year and would like to extend that to all patrons. Jason Hyatt contacted the directors of the systems who have adopted the blanket policy and learned that:

- Long overdue items started coming in when people realized they no longer owed the accumulated fines.
- Circulation actually increased overall.
- When the item is out for a specified time, it is moved over to LOST and the replacement cost is charged to the patron, whose library privileges are suspended until the item is paid for or returned.
- Torn or irreparably damaged items still must be paid for.

The Board will approve or disapprove the policy at the March board meeting.

Budget Update

Lee Smith, Finance Manager, presented the first draft of the 2021-2022 budget and clarified changes on line-items from the current year. Because some important information from the County on millage and a few other items is still being determined, she asked that the Budget be approved with the acknowledgment that she might be back with an adjusted document in the next months. A motion was made and carried to accept the Budget as presented. (Michael/Goodson)

New Business

None noted

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. (Goodson/Michael)

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2021, at a site to be determined.