

York County Library Board of Trustees
Minutes from October 12, 2023 Meeting – York Public Library

The YCL board meeting was called to order at 6:13 pm by Dahlin, Board Chair. A quorum was determined with the following trustees in attendance: Debra Dahlin, Dennis Getter, Wendi Michael, Susan Piening, Charles Robinson, and Timothy Steele. Also present from YCL: Buffy Koran, Lee Smith, and Julie Ward. Absent: Anne Witte.

Introduction: Joy Price, Board Member, Friends of the Library

Joy Price spoke about what the York County Friends of the Library contribute to the York County Library. Price provided a short history of the FOL operating as a non-profit organization. This calendar year the FOL has provided \$45,000 for the Summer Learning Program, \$1,500 for the Back to School Bash, \$10,000 for Patchwork Tales Festival, \$10,000 for the Genealogy Expo, \$2500 for Winter Reading Program, and an additional \$9,000 combined for Bucks for Books and department supplements. This adds up to a total of \$78,000 for calendar year 2023. Their major source of income is the sale of donated materials. Sales occur at their store on Main Street in Rock Hill, at standing lobby sales at libraries and coffee shops, and through online sales.

The meeting agenda was approved as written.

A request was made by Getter for a refresher on teen advisory boards as mentioned in the previous meeting's minutes. A motion was made and carried to approve the previous meeting's minutes. (Approved by unanimous consent, Michael/Robinson)

Director's Report

Introduction of Jennifer Stanley, York Branch Manager - Stanley provided a history of her time at YCL. A success at this branch is the wide variety of programming being offered. Growing to meet and honor the needs of the community is also a challenge. Offer hotspots, programs for homeschoolers, storytime alternatives, teen programs, adult book clubs and craft programs. Expanding on cooking programs and hoping to tie that into the seed library located in York.

Financial report - Miscellaneous income is exceeding budgeted amount due to credit from the retirement system. Salaries and related expenses are under budget. Staff development is trending ahead due to staff engagement software.

Statistics report - Ward provided an update on recent statistics and a new chart format. Shared that a recent spike in asynchronous stats was due to a recent youtube video receiving 5000 hits. Robinson asked if there was a way to have the impact of programs broadcasted more broadly, specifically mentioning the Genealogy Expo and the Lifelong Learning program with the City of Rock Hill.

Update on Rock Hill Library Electrical Upgrades - Moving forward again at replacing electrical, lighting, fire alarm systems, incorporating a different type of security, and updating IT wiring.

There will also be some HVAC and plumbing work while the ceiling panels are out. Outside work will go out to bid.

Old Business

Additional modification of Bylaws - Replace all instances of board composition from ten members to seven members, Remove all references to at-large members, Add “although all members represent the interests of all York County residents” to Article 1, Section 2 and Article 3, Section 2 (This addition recommended since board members do not have constituents and represent the county as a whole), Add “co-sign checks with the Director in lieu of the Treasurer” to duties of the chair, Add “All policies will be developed and implemented within the legal framework that applies to the library including federal, state and county laws, as well as the S.C. and U.S. Constitutions (especially the First Amendment, and those provisions addressing due process and equal and equitable treatment under the law)” to Article 1: Section 6: Legal Constraints, Add “S.C. Statute” to Article IV: Section 6: Procedures. A motion is made to approve all changes with the request that everything after the word constitutions be struck in Article 1: Section 6: Legal Constraints (Approved by unanimous consent, Getter/Piening).

New Business

Getter asked for an update on the three aspects of libraries: Books, Services, and Programs. Would like to know where approval for spending taxpayer funds on Services and Programs comes from. Ward provided an explanation of practices of providing programs and services, and how they are generally tied back to literacy and the needs of each community.

Steele asked about the benefits of providing different types of technology to library patrons and the percentage of the county they serve vs the cost to the library. Ward will find out the information and email it to board members.

Discussion occurred about social programs and how they fall under library purview. Ward explained how programs are developed based on a variety of factors including local interest and national trends. Identified that each branch develops for their own branch, and sometimes if those are successful they'll be added at other branches. Sometimes programs are based on things going on like Chemistry Week, Black History Month, or Women's History Month.

Dahlin announced that there is an orientation for board members on Nov 9 at County Council Chambers at 6 South Congress Street, York, SC 29745. Based on recommendations from board members the library board meeting that evening will be moved to York instead of Clover.

No motion was made for Executive Session.

No motion was made for Matters for Consideration.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm by Dahlin.