

Minutes

Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – December 21, 2023
(Approved on 01-08-2024)

J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library
157 Main Street
Appomattox, VA 24522
(434) 352-5340

Members Present

Evelyn Ford – Chairperson
Susan Williams
Hope Adams
Madeline Abbitt

Library Staff Present

Katharine Bloodworth – Interim Director

Others Present

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Call to Order

Evelyn Ford called the December 21st's Library Board meeting to order at 4:10pm.

Acceptance of previous minutes**November 2023 Minutes**

Katharine Bloodworth provided an emailed copy, and a hard copy of the November 2023 Library Board Minutes for review. Each Library Board member was given the opportunity to review the minutes.

Hope Adams made a motion to accept the November 2023 minutes as they are. The motion was seconded by Susan Williams

The Vote is as follows:

Evelyn Ford – aye
Susan Williams – Aye
Hope Adams – Aye
Madeline Abbitt - Aye

Evelyn Ford stated that the vote carried and the November 2023 minutes are accepted as they are, with no corrections or changes needed.

Report of the Librarian

Katharine Bloodworth stated she has lost the ability to access the Library's Facebook page due to separating the defunct Appomattox County Library Association's Facebook page from Jamerson's. Now Facebook is telling her that they don't recognize the device she is trying to sign in on. She has worked with former director Diana Harvey to regain access, but all their attempts has not been successful. Katharine will reach out to the County's IT person, Ace Bailey and attempt to find a solution to this problem. She has emailed Facebook, but hasn't heard back from them. If it is not possible to get access back she may just have to start a new Facebook page on behalf of the Library.

Katharine informed the Library Board that the upcoming 2024 state-wide Summer Reading theme is “Adventure Begins at your Library”. She will start seeking donations for this program at the start of January 2024.

Financial Report

Katharine Bloodworth provided the Library Board with a copy the Library’s as-current-as-possible Financial report as generated through a spreadsheet that she updates when the Library turns in income from library services, donations, and other sources of “income” and updated expenditures from Library generated bills.

Katharine informed the Library Board that the Jamerson Family Trust donated a check for \$2,500 and the Spout Spring Ruritan Club donated two checks, totaling \$500.

Committee Reports

Hiring Committee – Susan Williams and Hope Adams

Susan Williams informed the Library Board that there was now a third qualified candidate for the Library Director’s position and that the committee would move forward by starting the interviewing process.

Policy Manual Committee – Evelyn Ford

There are no new changes to the policy manual at this time.

Unfinished business

The Library Board discussed the upcoming first Citizens Comments portions of the predesignated meetings and the possible need to have a policy in place. Katharine presented a copy of the Board of Supervisor’s policy for citizens comments to the Library Board, as provided by Madeline Abbitt and Susan Adams. There was a question to what “Speakers may not speak on items that are on the public hearing calendar for that day” portion of the policy meant. There was some discussion of does the Library Board need to take minutes for citizens comments and is there a need to keep a record of who spoke, and the subject of their comments. The Library Board, unlike the Board of Supervisors does not record their meetings and they would seek clarification for these questions from the Board of Supervisors or County Administration office.. Katharine provided a “Library Board Citizens Comments Sign-Up Sheet” to be used before the above-mentioned meetings that allowed for citizens comments. After reviewing the proposed sign-up sheet, and some discussion the Library Board made the decision to accept the sign-up sheet.

Madeline Abbitt made a motion to accept the Citizens Sign-up Sheet with the possibility for the need to review and make changes, as this was the first time this Library Board would be allowing a citizens comments portion before a meeting. The motion was seconded by Hope Adams.

The Vote is as follows:

Evelyn Ford – aye
Susan Williams – Aye
Hope Adams – Aye
Madeline Abbitt - Aye

Evelyn Ford stated that the vote carried.

New Business

Evelyn Ford brought before the Board a copy of a letter written by Vice-Chair Brandon Barney, addressed to the Appomattox Board of Supervisors in regards for the need to increase the Director's salary. The Library Board feels the low starting salary has been a major hindrance in finding a qualified person to take over as the new Director. Mrs. Ford read the letter out loud and opened the floor to all Library Board members to discuss. It was agreed upon that the current Director's salary is below average and that the Library Board would need to approach the County and the Appomattox Board of Supervisors to petition them to consider an annual salary of 65,127. It is the Library Board's intentions address the Board of Supervisor's in their January 2024 meeting to request the additional funds in the Director's salary.

The Library Board was very grateful for the donation from the Jamerson Family Trust, and would like to see a sample of book plates to be used in the materials purchased from this generous funding. Katharine has agreed to come up with a sample book plate for their approval at a future date.

Due to a scheduling conflict the Library Board changed the date of the January 2024 meeting.

Evelyn Ford made the motion to change the January 2024 Library Board meeting from Thursday the 18th, to Monday the 8th, starting at 4pm in the conference room of the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library, located on Main Street in Appomattox, VA.

The Vote is as follows:

Evelyn Ford – aye
Susan Williams – Aye
Hope Adams – Aye
Madeline Abbitt – Aye

Evelyn Ford stated that the vote carried

Adjournment of the Meeting – 5:20pm

Madeline Abbitt made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and seconded by Susan Williams.

The Vote is as follows:

Evelyn Ford – aye
Susan Williams – Aye
Hope Adams – Aye
Madeline Abbitt – Aye

Evelyn Ford stated that the vote carried and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Library Board meeting will take place on Monday, January 8th , at 4:00pm in the conference room of the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library, located at 157 Main Street, Appomattox, VA.

Minutes taken by Katharine Bloodworth