



Minutes of the Volusia County Library Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, September 17, 2021

New Smyrna Beach Regional Library

1001 S. Dixie Freeway

New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

(386)-424-2910

And

Virtual GoTo Meeting

Attending Members:

Louise Caccamise, District 1

Patsy Franklin, District 4

Debra Grabowski, At Large

Thomas Hart, At Large

Christy Jefferson, District 5

Marjorie Johnson, District 2

Rev. Donald Needham, District 3

Staff:

Lucinda Colee, Library Director

Sharon Whitt, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER:

Thomas called meeting to order at 10:02am

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Don moved adoption as written.

Christy seconded, all in favor.

Revised Meeting Minutes of Friday, July 16, 2021 were approved.

WELCOME NEW DISTRICT 1 MEMBER – LOUISE CACCAMISE:

See under new business due to late arrival.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (see agenda handout):

Budget Update:

1st Budget Hearing – September 7, 2021

Recommended flat millage rate 0.5174 was passed 4-2

Final Budget Hearing will be held on September 21, 2021, at 6pm in the County Council Chambers

Lucinda is confident that the recommended rate will pass at the second meeting. She also believes that the library's vacant positions will remain vacant until after the budget passes.

Library Fund Fiscal Year 2021-22 Total Revenues is \$31,572,333

Library Fiscal Year 2021-22 Expenditures Total Expenses \$31,572,333

Value Calculator:

Used to show library users the market value they are receiving when they use library services. The monthly use value calculator is the Return on Investment Calculator which determines the value of library services in Volusia County Public Library on per capita spending of local and state funding. Every dollar paid equals several reading, research, programs and services.

Patrons are able to use the Value Calculator on the library's front webpage at volusialibrary.org then complete and submit a survey of the results.

Christy suggested making a poster size notification and press release of the Value Calculator. Lucinda also suggested to post it on Facebook.

-Summer Library Program Statistics:

Main purpose of summer library programs is to help kids reduce that summer slide when they're not reading or to fill the gap during the ending school year to the next beginning school year.

The library was unable to provide a full schedule of in-person programming, but was able to provide:

140 outdoor face-to-face programs with an attendance of 3199.

1384 self-directed programs with 57,357 participants (Some of these programs included scavenger hunts, crafts, games. etc.)

1,306 school age students participated in the online summer reading program with Beanstack software designed to help make the reading program successful. Beanstack will also help with the 1000 books before Kindergarten program. Medals and trophies will be given out with the revised 1000 books program.

The teen librarians are also working on a winter reading challenge program.

The library will continue to use the BeanStack platform to help make future reading programs successful.

Christy asked what age group uses the Beanstack reading programs.

Lucinda answered the platform can be used for all ages, including adult reading programs.

Summer Food Program Statistics:

The amount of grab and go breakfast and lunch food distribution in Volusia County Public Library branches to kids totaled 13,479:

Deltona - 4471
Deland – 3024
Ormond - 1089
Daytona Beach – 964
Dickerson Library – 903
Hope Place Library – 839
Orange City – 784
Lake Helen – 470
New Smyrna Beach – 364
Edgewater – 280
Oak Hill – 176
Pierson – 115

-Other Statistics including all branch libraries:

Circulation:

- August 2019 – 173,736
- August 2020 – 111,537
- August 2021 – 112,160

Reservations placed:

- August 2019 – 32,135
- August 2020 – 31,523
- August 2021 – 28,068

Public Access Computer Use:

- June 2020 – 7,596
- June 2021 – 10,362

Curbside Pickup

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| • June 2020 – 2,715 | June 2021 - 356 |
| • July 2020 – 1,229 | July 2021 - 340 |
| • August 2020 – 1,351 | August 2021 - 733 |

Library Visitors

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| • June 2020 – 78,669 | June 2021 – 82,238 |
| • July 2020 – 63,735 | July 2021 – 86,679 |
| • August 2020 – 68,005 | August 2021 – 85,079 |

-Florida Humanities Grant – Anti Racism Conversation Kits - \$5000 Humanities

Grant approved by county council will take place in October 2021.

The grant supports projects that strengthen vibrant communities and cultures, promote civic Engagement, spark thoughtful community dialogue, and reflect on the human experience across the Sunshine State.

The library will provide conversation kits for community group discussions, along with virtual community programs presented by humanities scholars from Bethune-Cookman University, and the Daytona Beach Public Housing Authority.

Adult Kits will be available in the regional libraries

Family Kits will be available in all libraries.

The kits will include books, plus questions and topics for open discussions.

Virtual programs will be on the Youtube channel and Facebook.

-Early Learning Resources Brochure (see Handout):

The library is partnering with the Early Learning Coalition to help promote the library's early learning resources to families and childcare providers to connect families and childcare providers to the library. Our plan is to introduce the 1000 books before kindergarten program to help pilot programs to daycares. The provider will update the reading information into Beanstack.

-Programming/Meeting Rooms

Lucinda mentioned the possibility of repeating face-to-face programming and anticipates Reopening Library meeting rooms in October 2021

Libraries are continuing their outdoor programs. For example Deland Regional is planning an Adult outdoor program and Deltona regional is planning to have some programs in the amphitheater.

Christy asked if it's possible to have an adult program sponsored by the friends in the auditorium.

Lucinda answered because of the Covid protocols she would set up a meeting with Christy and Ann to discuss the details to see if it would be possible.

Marjorie asked about the number of staff positive Covid cases.

Lucinda didn't have an exact number, but indicated it is low because of staff vigilance. She is being cautious to bring some services and programming back, and will continue to monitor the statistics to make sure numbers are decreasing before attempting to bring things back to normal. She will discuss final decisions with the deputy county manager for approval, but currently the county's preferred method is virtual programming.

OLD BUSINESS:

-Student Success Library Pass - Update

The partnership with Volusia County Schools is moving forward and the library has made a connection between the school's database and library system's database. The profile has been set up with the integrated library vendor to make the download of Volusia County student records.

Lucinda anticipates having the program in place by November 1, 2021, which will allow every Volusia County public school student access to Volusia County Public library services and online resources by using their student alpha numeric code and default pin number.

-Eliminating Fines

The library is continuing under the Covid umbrella of not charging fines. The process is working well and materials are still getting returned. Phone call reminders, overdue notices, and invoices of non-returned items continue as a courtesy to patrons.

NEW BUSINESS

Marjorie requested details on the date and time of the last budget hearing.

Lucinda answered it is on September 21, 2021 at 6:00pm as stated on the agenda and if any board member plans to attend to arrive as early as 5:00pm because the last budget meeting was still in session at 9:00pm. Arrive early to complete the yellow participation slip, but be prepared to wait awhile.

Lucinda anticipates being at this last budget hearing.

Christy suggested the library also develop a learning resources brochure for teens to see if it will help to increase the attendance of tweens and teens to the bookstore.

Lucinda will speak with teen liaison, Jane Weimer about developing a teen resource brochure.

Tom acknowledged the new district 1 board member, Louise Caccamise and gave her an opportunity to introduce herself to the library board.

Louise introduced herself to the board. She is president of the Friends of Deland Regional Library. She is excited to have the bookstore reopen with the return of all the volunteers. She mentioned the bookstore has installed a glass protected shield at the service counter and anticipates it will work well.

Louise inquired about the way-finding library traffic symbols as she was unable to see one for the New Smyrna Beach Regional library.

Lucinda answered there's no symbol for the New Smyrna location, but there is library signage. There are way-finding symbols for some of the libraries that were installed by the library. But some of the Volusia cities have replaced library signage with other way-finding traffic signage.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

BOARD DISCUSSION

Marjorie asked if Lucinda has received any updates on paving of the parking lot at the Daytona Beach Regional Library because there are very large, holes in the paving.

Lucinda answered no. She called the public works department but to her understanding, it's not currently in their plans. She will reach out to public works again for updates.

ADJOURNMENT:

Don moved motion to adjourn. Christy seconded motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:53am

Next meeting: Friday, November 19, 2021 at 10:00am.

Location: Volusia County Public Library Support Center

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Whitt