

Minutes
Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing Board
Martinsville Library
May 19, 2021

Board members Jim Allen, Margaret Caldwell, Rives Coleman, Janet Demiray, Marty Gardner, Betsy Haskins, Mary Campbell Stromire, and Debbie Youngman were in attendance.

Also attending were Director Rick Ward and Interim Administrative Assistant George Gutshall.

Board members Kathy Hodges, Bill Kirby, and Bernice Scales were unable to attend.

Call to Order:

Board Chair Betsy Haskins called the meeting to order at 12:05 and welcomed those in attendance.

Minutes:

The minutes from the April 21st meeting in Martinsville were presented and Margaret Caldwell moved that the minutes be approved, Rives Coleman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

George Gutshall reviewed the library's financial report.

He reported that revenues were higher this past month as we received our funding from Henry County and our State Aid payment plus our funding from Patrick County that was not received in time to go into the report. He expects us to have a surplus at the end of the fiscal year that could be applied to the roof replacement in Martinsville thus reducing the amount we have to take from capital funds.

He reported that expenses were higher due to expending Cares Act funds, for which we will be reimbursed, plus the cost of HVAC repairs at the Ridgeway Branch and funding for iPads for the Summer Reading program.

He also noted that we have put the Friends monies that were donated for Summer Reading in the capital accounts.

On a motion by Debbie Youngman, seconded by Janet Demiray, the board unanimously approved the financial report.

Committee Reports:

Margaret Caldwell, on behalf of the Marketing Committee, reported that the three localities we represent which include the City of Martinsville, Henry County, and Patrick County all passed resolutions declaring April 4 – 10 National Library Week with various BRRL board members in attendance.

She also reported that Emma Ravenel had made a new flyer for the committee to use listing all of the library's databases on our website.

Old Business:

Rick Ward reported that he had heard from Service Roofing and, due to severe shortages in the industry, the material delivery had been pushed back to May 28th. Rick will get in touch with him to see if it can be finished by the end of June.

Board Chair Betsy Haskins reported that her son, Hugh Haskins, would be giving a training session on fundraising in August for members of the Board of Trustees and the Foundation's board.

She also asked that a Fundraising Committee be established for the library system. After some discussion, the committee selected will be comprised of Betsy Haskins, Margaret Caldwell, Marty Gardner, and Rick Ward.

New Business:

There was a discussion of the need for new board members as Jim Allen, Janet Demiray, Kathy Hodges, and Mary Campbell Stromire will be coming off the board in June. Board Chair Betsy Haskins stressed the need for the board to try to recruit people of color and she will contact Tim Hall's Administrative Assistant Jennifer Gregory to discuss the matter.

Janet Demiray presented the board with a shorter and simpler version of the Director's evaluation form. On a motion by Rives Coleman, seconded by Debbie Youngman, the board voted unanimously to use the new Director's evaluation form included in the new Board of Trustees Handbook.

Friends Report:

Mary Campbell Stromire reported that the Friends had starting taking book donations again though they will not be taking magazine donations.

Director's Agenda:

Director Ward referred the board to the printed director's report.

Adjournment:

Mary Campbell Stromire moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:17, Rives Coleman seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Recorder
Rick Ward

Jim Allen
Secretary