

**MAURY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES: MINUTES**

July 26, 2022
Columbia, Tennessee

Present: Joel Friddell, Kyle Hendrickson, Brian McKelvy, Jan McKeel, Zelia Dinwiddie

Also Present: Anne Osborne, BRRL Assistant Director; Zac Fox, MCPL Director; Guest Darrell Martin, Maury County Commissioner

Call to Order: Chair Joel Friddell called the meeting to order.

Opening Thoughts: It is important to have good candidates, and everyone who is registered should vote,

Reading and Approval of Minutes: A motion was made and seconded before the Board voted for approval of the July minutes.

Reports:

Students' Club: The Students' Club will resume regular meetings in October.

Regional Library: Assistant Director Anne Osborne reminded the board that the four documents due annually should be completed and turned by the end of the month. James Ritter, the new State Librarian, began his duties on July 25th.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION REPORT: The foundation hopes to raise five million dollars in the next two years. Dawn Moore is working to set up a PayPal account. The foundation voted to let time pass before negotiating an MOU because of the veto. It will meet on August 16th to gather names of individuals and business groups who will be asked to make donations.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Sarah Gilliam, Bryson Leach, and Zac have discussed displaying pictures from Portrait Park inside and outside the library. The cost would be minimal to the library. There are approximately twenty-two places on the inside walls to hang the 4'x4' pieces of sheet metal that have portraits on each side. The exhibit would change on a regular basis, and the extra panels would be stored at the library. The motion was made, seconded, and passed to proceed with the project.

The position for a full-time Children's Librarian is still open. There is also a need for another part-time position.

The library plans to host a program in November that will highlight local and national issues from the year 1972-a fifty-year retrospective.

NEW BUSINESS: Many attended the July Maury County Commission meeting in support of the library. Don Morrow stated that the library cannot be defunded. The library budget was

increased 11.8% (presently \$934,000) from last year and is more in line with other Level 5 libraries. Input is about \$9.20 per capita.

There should be a visible policy in place that clearly communicates the purpose of all displays at the library. Displays at the Columbia Library are the result of input by the staff and are carefully designed. Pictures should be taken of every display as soon as it is available for viewing. A short note explaining the exhibit and the reasons behind it should also be included at the site.

Brian reminded the group that Maury County is basically conservative, but there are positives that can come from the LGBTQ community. The library is a public entity and cannot discriminate. It does not condone censorship and is not political. The library is not a substitute parent; however, there are age restrictions on procuring library cards and checking out materials that meet age requirements. The library should always be pro-active. Joel wants to see more publicity for Summer Reads/Summer Feeds. The library gave out more than 800 meals this summer.

The library should promote all activities and programs available to the public.

OTHER BUSINESS: Jan reported that the Art Council agreed to show art from Arts Inside, a group of artists based in Tracy City that works with incarcerated populations at the August 17th Art Council meeting. A sample of art created during sessions at the Maury County Jail is currently displayed in the reading area of the library.

The library will host a reception for artist Cory Ricaurte who created and donated the public art piece on the west corner of the lawn sometime in September, and the Art Council has contributed \$250 to that event.

With no further business the MEETING ADJOURNED,