

Minutes
Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing Board
Martinsville Library
September 16, 2015

Board members Margaret Caldwell, Dave Cuthbertson, Janet Demiray, Betsy Haskins, Bill Kirby, Carol Meyer, Mary Ruth Reynolds, Melanie Soulos, Mary Campbell Stromire, and Linda Wilson were in attendance.

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

Board member Kathy Hodges was absent.

Call to Order:

Board Chair Janet Demiray called the meeting to order at 12:07 and welcomed those in attendance.

Minutes:

The minutes from the August 20th meeting in Ridgeway were presented and Mary Ruth Reynolds moved that the minutes be approved, Mary Campbell Stromire seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

George Gutshall reviewed the financial report.

He reported that our income was up due to the \$3,500 contribution from the Patrick County Historical Museum to help pay for the HVAC system at the Patrick County Branch and also a \$700 contribution from Martin Clark to buy audio copies of three of his books for the library system as they have just become available in that format. We have additionally received memorial donations totaling around \$1,100 for Laura Chiudioni and Janet Muehleck. Our fees and fine collections are up as well.

On the other hand, our expenses are up due to paying for the HVAC system in Patrick plus we have paid several bills that are for the whole year such as our insurance and certain maintenance contracts.

The Debt Set Off or DSO has started for the year which is a program that allows us to go through the Virginia Department of Taxation to collect unpaid fines and unreturned material costs. In 2014, we were able to collect approximately \$12,000 which is actually a small fraction of what is owed. George commended the staff for being diligent when issuing cards as this greatly helps in the collection process.

Due to a clerical error, one of our Appalachian Power bills was paid late and AEP is demanding we pay a \$1725 deposit to keep the power on at one of our branches. If we don't miss any more payments, we will likely recoup this amount in 24 months.

Carol Meyer moved that the financial report be accepted as presented, Margaret Caldwell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Foundation Committee Secretary, Janet Demiray, presented the minutes of their last meeting to the board.

Old Business:

Gary Collins with Stifel has begun investing our funds from the capital accounts into the Income Fund of America. They have also combined all the accounts into one to simplify our investment strategy.

Rick reported he had gotten sample bids from Martinsville and Henry County in relation to sending out a RFP for having the parking lot paved at the Ridgeway branch. They both are extremely detailed and complex and Dave Cuthbertson suggested we just send out a request for bids and take it from there.

New Business:

Betsy Haskins was appointed to the Plant/Facilities Committee and she was also appointed to the Foundation Committee.

Since Rick will be in Richmond on October 21st and Janet will be out of the country, the next board meeting in Bassett has been moved to October 14th.

Friends Report:

Mary Stromire reported that the last Friends' sale brought in \$1,000. There will be a sale at the Patrick branch on September 26th. She also reported that Aubrey Morris, author of *When a Sparrow Falls*, will speak at 11AM at the Bassett Historical Center on October 13th. Martin Clark, author of *The Jezebel Remedy*, will be speaking at the Martinsville branch on November 9th at 11AM.

Director's Agenda:

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

Rick again noted that the Martinsville branch will be once again having their Dance or Sing Your Fines Away during the Culture Crawl which was scheduled for the previous Saturday but had been moved to the coming Friday afternoon.

He also reported that the library will have a booth at Oktoberfest on October 3rd, training day will be held on October 15th, the Patrick branch will have a booth at the Apple Dumpling Festival on October 17th, and the Ridgeway branch will be having a 25th Anniversary Celebration on October 17th in conjunction with the town of Ridgeway which will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary.

Adjournment:

Bill Kirby moved that the meeting be adjourned at 12:57, Janet Demiray seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Recorder
Rick Ward

Carol Meyer
Secretary