

Minutes
Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing Board
Bassett Branch Library
August 14, 2019

Board members Jim Allen, Margaret Caldwell, Janet Demiray, Betsy Haskins, Kathy Hodges, Bill Kirby, Bernice Scales, Mary Campbell Stromire and Debbie Youngman were in attendance.

Also attending were Director Rick Ward, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Prillaman and Bassett Branch Manager Karen Barley.

Board member Rhonda Casey was unable to attend.

Call to Order:

Board Chair Betsy Haskins called the meeting to order at 12:00 and welcomed those in attendance.

Minutes:

On a motion by Mary Campbell Stromire, seconded by Margaret Caldwell, the board voted unanimously to add four items to the agenda.

The minutes from the July 17th meeting in Martinsville were presented and Mary Campbell Stromire moved that the minutes be approved, Bernice Scales seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Elizabeth Prillaman reviewed the library's financial report.

She reported that Martinsville City Finance Director Linda Conover had been on vacation and the donations for Bassett and Patrick branches have not been moved to this fiscal year yet but should be finished by next month.

Bill Kirby moved that the financial report be accepted as presented, Kathy Hodges seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Margaret Caldwell, on behalf of the Marketing Committee, reported that she will be speaking to the Altrusa Club on Saturday. The committee will also meet with the Friends of the Library at their next meeting on September 9th.

A committee was formed to spearhead the board's efforts to begin plans for the Bassett Branch expansion. The committee is comprised of Jim Allen, Chair; Mary Campbell Stromire; Betsy Haskins; and Bassett Branch Manager Karen Barley.

Old Business:

Rick showed a training video on the board's responsibilities in regard to advocacy for the library system.

On a motion by Mary Campbell Stromire, seconded by Kathy Hodges, the board voted unanimously to take \$10,000 from the library system's unallocated account held at the City of Martinsville to pay up to \$10,000 to have preliminary plans drawn up for the planned Bassett Branch expansion by Reynolds Architects out of Blacksburg, VA.

There was a brief discussion about the board's self-evaluation and the Director's evaluation.

New Business:

Board Chair Betsy Haskins encouraged the board members to write letters to the editor in the local newspapers espousing the great programs that all the branches in the system are conducting.

Due to Rick being out of town on September 18th, the next board meeting at the Patrick County branch has been moved to September 11th.

Rick reported that he and Leandio Gravely have been in contact with a committee sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services who are going to conduct a study of the library's programs that help patrons with their quality of life in this area.

A fall retreat for the entire board has tentatively been set for September 7th from 9 – 1.

Friends Report:

Mary Campbell Stromire reported that the Friends are going to have a sale on October 4th from 1 – 5:30 for Friends members and on October 5th from 9:30 – 2 for the general public at the Martinsville Library.

They have also donated children's books to a "Little Library".

Director's Agenda:

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

Rick gave a brief discussion on the staff salary status reiterating the need to get the localities to increase our funding in order to give staff members a raise.

The library director's consortium SALAD will meet at the Martinsville Library on September 12th.

He will be attending the Library of Virginia Director's meeting in Richmond from September 18 – 20.

Adjournment:

Janet Demiray moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:42, Bill Kirby seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Recorder
Rick Ward

Jim Allen
Secretary