

Minutes
Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing Board
Bassett Branch Library
February 21, 2024

Board members Margaret Caldwell, Felita Claybrooks, Rives Coleman, Karen Despot, Lora Mahaffey, and Greg Peitz attended. Sherry Vestal attended via Zoom due to being out of town for work.

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

Board members Rebecca Adcock, Yluelhaldi Rose, Lewis Turner, and Donata Worrell were unable to attend.

Call to Order:

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

Minutes:

After corrections, on a motion by Rives Coleman, seconded by Greg Peitz, the minutes from the January 10th meeting were unanimously approved. The minutes from the November 15, 2023 meeting were approved as well.

Financial Report:

George Gutshall reviewed the library's financial report.

On a motion by Lora Mahaffey, seconded by Felita Claybrooks, the financial report was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Margaret Caldwell, reporting for the Marketing Committee, said she had talked to Fred Motley about doing a storytelling fundraiser for the Bassett Expansion and he explained that it wasn't a good idea for that type of program. Karen Despot presented some sample cards to promote the library system and be put in various coffee shops, restaurants, etc. The board agreed by consensus to go forward with the promotion. The next Marketing Committee meeting will be February 26th.

Rives Coleman, reporting for the Facilities Committee, said he had gotten estimates from Frith Construction and Andy Quirk Design Build Construction about remodeling the library system's public bathrooms. He recommended the estimate from Andy Quirk for \$17,600 for the Martinsville bathrooms and \$14,500 for the Ridgeway bathrooms. On a motion by Greg Peitz, seconded by Karen Despot, the board voted unanimously to accept the bid with Rives Coleman abstaining. The funds will be taken from the Capital Accounts, the Unallocated Account, and extra funds from the surplus state aid funds.

Old Business:

Closed meeting under § 2.2-3711(A)(1) for discussion of personnel matters.

Rives Coleman moved that the board enter closed session, Lora Mahaffey seconded, and the board entered closed session. Greg Peitz recused himself from the closed session.

Lora Mahaffey moved that the board leave closed session, Karen Despot seconded, and the board left closed session.

All board members certified that the board discussed only the business for which they entered closed session.

Sherry Vestal, reporting for the Steering Committee, said there will be a Bingo Fundraiser for the Bassett Expansion on April 27th at the former Bassett Country Club building. They are looking for businesses to donate door prizes and there will be concessions offered.

New Business:

Due to time constraints, Greg Peitz agreed to table the discussion of having the library system extend its reach to the eastern part of Henry County.

Margaret Caldwell said she had been in touch with eight prospective members for the BRRL Foundation board and had received a confirmation from Nancy Bell to join the board.

She also asked that the board members be considering when to have a work day sometime in March.

On a motion by Rives Coleman, seconded by Karen Despot, the budget requests to the localities for FY2024-25 was approved by majority vote. Greg Peitz voted no.

Friends Report:

Rick Ward said the next Friend's book sale will be April 12th and 13th.

Director's Agenda:

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

The board agreed by consensus to meet on March 13th due to the director being out of town and will be held in Collinsville.

Adjournment:

Due to some members having to leave early thus losing a quorum, the board adjourned at 1:20.

Recorder
Rick Ward

Yluelhaldi Rose
Secretary