

Oconee County Library Board Meeting
January 11, 2021
4:30 p.m.
Oconee County Civic Center

The following members of the Board were present:

Mark Campbell
Deanna Craft
Fred Lutz
Soraia Santos-Felgenhauer
Jon Kirkpatrick
Rubielen Norris
Laura French
Mike Eddy
Mandy Marable
Rachel Watson
Angela Moss-Hill

Athens Regional Library System members were also present, including:

Ms. Val Bell
Mr. James Mitchell
Ms. Donna Butler
Ms. Jean Mead

Mr. Campbell advised attendees there would be no public comments due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and welcomed the public to utilize the Board's dedicated email to make their voices heard. The Board's email is oconeeboard@gmail.com for interested individuals to email the Oconee County Library Board of Trustees.

Mr. Mitchell provided a report regarding the Oconee Library. Ms. Butler provided a report regarding the Bogart Library. Ms. Bell updated the Board on current operations due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Mr. Campbell turned to the discussion and presentations regarding the location of the Oconee County Library. He recounted the history of the library, the need for a new facility, and the July 2019 proposal from Oconee County to house the new Oconee Library in the County's planned administrative building. The Board previously approved locating the library in the Oconee County administrative building.

Oconee County Chairman Daniell provided a presentation regarding the County's proposal. Chairman Daniell noted that the County has supported the libraries in Oconee County for decades. The State of Georgia funding will be approximately \$1.9 million, the County will contribute \$1.2 million, which affords the Board \$3.1M to spend on the new location. Chairman Daniell expressed the Commission's intent to continue its cash support of the library, as well as

maintenance and operations support. He also stated there would be no punitive financial losses to the library if the Wire Park location is chosen. Chairman Daniell encouraged the Board to view the decision as a generational decision and a fiscal decision.

Duke Gibbs, developer of Wire Park, presented his proposal to the Board. He outlined his vision of Wire Park, and encouraged the Board to imagine the library as a vital part of the project.

Brian Brodrick and Christine Tucker, both of the Watkinsville City Council, made a presentation to the Board in support of Wire Park. They emphasized the live-work aspect of the Wire Park location. **MARK, I don't have the number / financial support details in my notes.**

Chairman Campbell thanked Chairman Daniell, Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Brodrick, and Ms. Tucker for their presentations. He stated the Board would have a called meeting to discuss and vote on the library location.

Ms. Bell asked the Board to consider two items:

1. Student card waiver of fines: the library system is partnering with the school system to link student cards with library cards. Part of the agreement is that the library must waive all late fines. Upon motion by Ms. Norris, seconded by Ms. Moss-Hill, the Board unanimously approved waiving fines for students using their student cards for library services.
2. Print management system: the Bogart and Oconee libraries are in need of a new print management system. The current system is obsolete. Ms. Bell has a proposal for the Board's consideration. She asked the Board review the proposal and take the item up for a vote at its next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.