

Oconee County Library Board of Trustees

April 12, 2021

The Oconee County Library Board of Trustees held its regular quarterly meeting on Monday, May 12, 2021 at 4:30p.m. at the Bogart Library. The following members were present: Chair Mark Campbell, Vice-Chair Rubielen Norris, Donna Craft, Mike Eddy, Jonathan Kirkpatrick, Fred Lutz, Mandy Marable, Daphne Norton and Rachel Watson.

The following members of the Library System were present: Valerie Bell, Toby Mayfield, James Mitchell and Donna Butler.

Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending. Minutes from the January 11, 2021 meeting held at the Oconee County Civic Center were reviewed and amended to add Daphne Norton as in attendance followed by a motion by Mike Eddy and seconded by Jon Kirkpatrick, The vote was unanimous to approve as amended. Minutes of the January 25, 2021 Called Meeting were approved by a motion made by Fred Lutz and seconded by Daphne Norton with a unanimous vote to approve.

There were no public comments.

James Mitchell presented the Branch Manager's Report as follows: The Library has changed its quarantine time from 7 days to 3 days. Oconee Public School Students can now access public library e-books through their school SORA accounts giving more students access to our materials. Bogart had a large number of diapers and other supplies donated during its "Community Drives". These items are donated to ACTS. Virtual Programming continues for all ages and grab and go crafts also continue to be popular for all ages. The Library in partnership with Oconee Parks launched its first Storywalk program. The library also partnered with Keep Oconee Beautiful, Athens Seed Company and the Extension Office to offer free seeds and to promote gardening. Molly Moore resigned from Bogart and Thomas Stein was hired at Oconee.

Valerie Bell presented the Regional Services Report as follows: good news is the State Legislature approved .40 per capita for material funding. Executive orders extended state of emergency until April 30, 2021, at that time mandatory mask eliminated (cannot require mask) in counties except Clarke. Mask will be requested but not required. The Library will be open by May 17th with no longer quarantine of books. On March 2nd, 6 Dr Seuss books were requested to be pulled off the shelves because of racial content. After reviewing the books they will remain in the library in reference area where a request is needed to see them. Val then introduced Toby Mayfield, a new employee at the Regional office. The annual management fee each year for the new Print Management will be \$2,222.00.

Chairman Campbell stated that he would like to have the library open as much as possible. He suggested to Val Bell that anything the board could do to help get that done, please let us know.

The Watkinsville Friends of the Library report was given by James Mitchell as follows: the February sale was cancelled. Plans are being made to hold the annual book sale in September and considering

holding it for two weekends. Because of storage space they cannot accept any more donated books at this time.

Donna Butler reported that the Bogart Friends have opened their book store.

Chairman Campbell reported that a MOU with Oconee County for the new library to be located in Watkinsville are being reviewed by the Region and that an address for Wire Park is needed. An agreement between Watkinsville and Oconee County will allow for a check to be written by July 1, from Watkinsville Council for Capital funds. The agreement will be in place for 20 years and will be named the Oconee County Library not the Watkinsville Library. The Location Committee will remain the same individuals and the Architect will be one that designs libraries.

Val Bell added that last week was National Library Week and that each branch received a proclamation.

Fred Lutz asks that a letter with specifications for the building be sent to Oconee County and Watkinsville. Chairman Campbell agreed and will make that happen.

Mandy Marable ask if the present library when vacated would go back to the county. Chairman Campbell stated that Oconee County owns the building and it will go back to them.

Chairman Campbell explained that a new budget will go into effect on July 1, 2021 and needs approval before the next board meeting in July. A motion was made by Rubielen Norris to adopt the 2022 Budget which will be the same as the 2021 Budget with changes possible at the July regular board meeting. It was seconded by Mike Eddy with a unanimous vote to accept.

The next regular Board Meeting will be on July 12, 2021 at Bogart Library at 4:30p.m. A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Eddy seconded by Fred Lutz and received a unanimous vote to accept.

Respectfully Submitted

Rubielen Norris