

Oconee County Library Board Meeting

Minutes for January 13, 2025

4:30 p.m.

The Oconee County Library at Wire Park

Chairperson Norris called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The following members of the Board were present: Chairperson Rubielen Norris, Vice-Chairperson Daphne Norton, Secretary Fred Lutz, Angela Moss-Hill, Deann Craft, Amanda Marable, Laura Moore, Kelly Hansford, Wanda Stitt-Gohdes and Rachael Watson. A quorum was present. Two new board members (Ms. Hansford and Ms. Stitt-Gohdes) were welcomed to the board.

Oconee County Library and Athens Regional Library System members were also present including Donna Butler and Toby Mayfield.

The meeting was video recorded by Lee Becker of the community. No public comments were offered by the several members of the community present at the meeting.

A motion by Ms. Moore, seconded by Ms. Norton, carried approving the minutes of the October 14, 2024 board meeting.

The Branch Manager's report was provided by Ms. Butler. Recent successful events at Bogart included an origami program and a teen led henna program. Upcoming library events at Wire Park and Bogart for the current quarter were briefed in detail.

Ms. Mayfield reported regional services activity during the quarter including weekly branch manager meetings, attendance at county library board meetings, participation in hiring interviews and staff training sessions. The solar light project in the Athens library parking lot is almost complete. A room divider screen for the Bogart library conference room has been approved. Ms. Mayfield's detailed report is attached.

Ms. Butler indicated that the Bogart friends of the library have officially disbanded with their residual funds being transferred to the library. The Watkinsville friends of the library winter book sale is scheduled for February 13-16 at the Oconee County Civic Center. The chair encouraged board members to support the book sale.

Old Business:

The Art Committee comprised of Ms. Norton, Ms. Moore and Ms. Moss-Hill was formed at the January 2024 board meeting to propose appropriate décor and dedication plaques for the Wire Park library. Ms. Moss-Hill reported that the committee met again last week. One of five art boards created through the Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation has been proposed for installation outside the Wire Park library. The library art board is funded by external funds and is ready for installation. The committee recommended that the board approve the installation. A motion offered by Ms. Moss-Hill and seconded by Ms. Moore, carried approving the project.

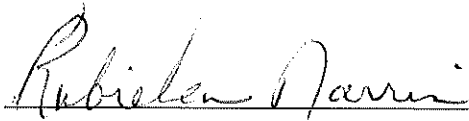
The financial report through November 30, 2024 was reviewed by the board. It was noted that FY 2025 funding has yet to be provided by the City of Watkinsville. Overall, library expenditures are less than receipts for the fiscal year. Chairperson Norris noted that a copy of the FY 2026 proposed budget has been provided to the board. The board will vote on the FY 2026 budget at the April 2025 meeting.

Chairperson Norris indicated that the committee reviewing candidates for the ARLS Executive Director position would provide a recommendation to the ARLS advisory board at the January 16th meeting.

New Business:

Chairperson Norris suggested that an appropriate plaque be obtained for the new Wire Park library listing the names of library board members at the time of the opening. Chairperson Norris commended the extraordinary efforts of past board chairman Mark Campbell for his support of the project. Discussion ensued. It was noted that funds exist from the renovation project to cover the cost of a plaque. A motion by Mr. Lutz, seconded by Ms. Marable, carried approving procurement of a suitable plaque.

There being no further business, upon the motion by Ms. Norton seconded by Ms. Moore, the board adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 14, 2025 at the Bogart Library location.



Rubielen Norris, Chairman



Fred Lutz, Secretary