

Franklin County Library Board Mtg.

December 7, 2021

Ozark Library - 6:00 p.m.

Present: New board member Marcie Newhart, Milanie Matthews, Linda Halmes, Casey White (by Zoom); County Librarians Deidre Fears and Hannah Hobbs; and regional Librarian Misty Hawkins.

Without a President and the absence of Vice President J. J. Chronister, the meeting was called to order by Milanie Matthews at 6:10 p.m.

The minutes of last meeting on October 12, 2021 were made available to be read. Motion made by Casey, seconded by Linda to approve. Motion carried.

Financial reports showed \$256,421.72 in county fund; \$5,353.38 in Charleston petty cash; \$2,685.50 in Ozark petty cash; and a balance of \$84,329.11 on the loan for the renovation of Ozark Library. Motion made by Linda, seconded by Milanie, to approve financial statements. Motion carried. Deidre reported that the proposed 2022 budget was presented to Quorum Court and was passed.

#### LIBRARIAN REPORTS

Hannah said that a lot of planning had been done for the holiday season and preparations made for coming year when she plans to start a volunteer program. Volunteers will be used to assist with crafts and other programs and also help at the circulation desk when needed. She will be planning staff training for the coming year. New programs are being planned along with the ongoing programs such as yoga, book clubs, etc. that will continue. A list of activities with attendance is included.

Deidre reported that the Library had handed out 720 treat bags during the Haunted Hillbilly Highway event on Halloween. In collaboration with Main Street Ozark, a story book walk was held downtown. A Halloween movie was shown at the park with 200 attending. The Holiday Open House and Pictures with Santa was attended by 38 kids and \_\_\_\_\_ adults. Library staff handed out 760 cups of hot chocolate to those attending Christmas on the Square. A Christmas movie, Polar Express, is scheduled to be shown. Deidre will be presenting a budget to Ozark A&P for a grant of \$2,000.00 to pay for licenses for five movies to be shown during 2022

Misty is evaluating progress that has been made in the region during the past year and half. The region is working on a strategic plan and a consultant has been hired to advise on a plan that when completed will be sent out to the county libraries. One of the goals is an effort to reach more people. Misty reported the Franklin County circulation numbers were better this year than last but not as high as before Covid hit. She continues to work on funding issues and is

working on the regional budget to be presented for approval. Misty announced that regional board meetings are held by Zoom and are open to anyone wishing to view.

#### OLD BUSINESS

The board had included an extra payment on the renovation loan in the 2021 budget. Deidre said that the County Treasurer suggested that we might wait until 2021 bills were paid before making payment in March, 2022. Since the extra loan payment was included in 2021 budget, it was discussed that payment needs to be made in this year. A motion was made by Linda, seconded by Milanie, to pay \$20,000.00 in current year. Motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Deidre would like to attend an American Sign Language training class offered by ALA. Because the cost is more than \$500.00, she needs board approval. The cost is \$539.10 and would be taken from Travel Line Item 3030. A motion was made by Marcie, seconded by Milanie, for Deidre and staff to participate. Motion carried.

With the resignation of past board chairman, the vacancy needs to be filled. A motion was made by Marcie, seconded by Casey, to ask current Vice President J. J. Chronister to move up to President and Casey would be Vice President. If J. J. does not wish to move up, Casey would be President and J. J would be asked to remain as Vice. In addition, Marcie would be added as a co-secretary along with present secretary Linda Halmes. Motion carried. Regular elections are to be held in even years.

Dates were set for next year's meetings and are as follows: April 12 (Charleston); July 12 (Ozark); October 11 (Charleston); and December 13 (Ozark. Subject to change, all meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. These dates will also be put on the regional calendar and will be announced to the public.

There being no further business, Milanie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marcie. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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Linda Halmes, Secretary