

Alexandria Library Board

April 15, 2019

Burke Branch Library

Attendance: Director Rose Dawson, Deputy Director Renee DiPilato, Board Chair Kathleen Schloeder, Oscar Fitzgerald, Helen Desfosses, Trudi Hahn, Patsy Rogers, Frank Fannon

Excused: Elizabeth Bennett-Parker

Guest: Charles Ziegler

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm.

Public Comment

Chuck Ziegler shared news from Friends of Beatley Central Library. The Beatley Friends had a successful spring book sale that brought in over \$27,000. The Beatley Friends currently have \$144,738.33 total funds on hand. Total uncommitted funds (not including Contingency Reserve) are \$95,531.59. Total membership as of April 9, 2019, is 190 plus 9 Life Members. Volunteer hours for March were 916, valued at \$22,900 (at \$25 per hour). Mr. Ziegler testified at the City Council meeting on Saturday, April 13. He shared some of his recent testimony. Chuck will send the latest financial statement.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the February minutes was made by Mr. Fitzgerald and was seconded by Ms. Desfosses. The motion carried.

Director's Report

Director Dawson reviewed the monthly activity report. While the patron count was slightly down, circulation of library materials was up. Registered borrowers also increased as did the number of e-borrowers. Director Dawson reported that the Library received a proclamation from Mayor Wilson in honor of National Library Week. April is also Volunteer Appreciation Month. Katie Dow, the Beatley Library's Adult Services Coordinator, attended the City's Volunteer Appreciation Day celebration on the Library's behalf. Boards and Commission members were not invited this year; there must have been an oversight and individuals throughout the City were disappointed to be excluded. In terms of facilities, there were no leaks reported at Beatley Central during the last few rain storms. Director Dawson also provided an update on scheduling a meeting with City Manager Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager Debra Collins, and Director of General Services Jeremy McPike regarding the Burke Branch Library. City Manager Jinks would like to discuss the status of the first floor at Burke. Director Dawson will have more information to share following that meeting. Director Dawson shared that she is now on two different committees. She was invited to join the Google Library Advisory Board, which is a partnership between ALA and Google for advice on investments in library services. In addition, Director Dawson was invited to join the Technology Investment Board, a new committee run by the City's IT Department. This group will assist with communication and Capital Improvement Project proposals.

Following the Director's Report, Ms. Schloeder commented on the positive reception for the All Alexandria Reads opening event with author AJ Jacobs. Deputy Director DiPilato provided more information on All Alexandria Reads events. Ms. Schloeder also commented that the Library's Communications Officer did a great job with email communication for the citywide Spring 2 Action fundraising initiative. She thanked the Board members who contributed, the staff members who contributed, and two Council members, Pepper and Aguirre. Ms. Desfosses noted a friend donated in her name. Director Dawson noted two matches from Braxton Moncure and Brooksie Koopman.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Desfosses stated that the Library was 75% through the year, had spent 76.04% of the budget and 77.34% of State Aid funds. The Library made 358, 902.69 (81.12%) of its requirement of \$442,411 in fines and fees. In addition, the Law Library has received 83,000 in filing fees, including a one-time transfer in December, which had not been previously accessible to the Library.

Investment Report

There was no Investment Committee Report for this meeting.

Old Business

Ms. Schloeder reported on the public art project for the Burke Library. The taskforce met on February 28. At that meeting, the committee came up with a project plan regarding public art, including goals and a timeline. The project plan was approved by the Commission for the Arts. It will come back to the taskforce in April, so that members can look at the request for a call for artists. The request for artists will remain out for 45 days at a minimum. Artists will return qualifications and every member of the taskforce will independently score the artists. The goal is to interview potential artists in June.

New Business

Ms. Schloeder appointed a Committee to evaluate the Library Director. She will lead with Ms. Desfosses' assistance. Nomination Committee for Board Officers was also appointed to include Ms. Rogers and Mr. Fannon. Mr. Fitzgerald agreed to draft the Library Board's annual report again this year.

Deputy Director DiPilato presented the revised Display and Exhibit Policy. Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the revised policy, which was seconded by Ms. Desfosses. The motion carried.

A motion to adjourn at 4:55pm was made by Mr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Ms. Desfosses. The motion carried.