

Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 19, 2015

Chairman, Dr. Rudy Widman, called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM in the Fort Pierce Branch Library Meeting Room.

Members in attendance: Rudy Widman, Maureen Melvin, Eloise Cummings, Eukeba Jones, Ethel Rowland, Carnelle Clifton, Jewel Player and Marjorie Harrell. Also in attendance: Susan Jacob, Library Manager and Nancy Woodfin, Library Administrative Specialist.

The minutes from the last Board Meeting dated 07/20/2015 were distributed. A motion was made (Eloise Cummings) and seconded (Jewel Player) to accept the minutes as distributed. The motion passed.

Old Business:

- Library Manager gave an update on the Library portion of the county budget for Fiscal Year 2016. She stated that the Library came out very well this year with an increase in budget from \$3.1 million to \$4 Million in FY 16. She reported that the increase is due largely to the approval of money needed for both the opening of Rosser Boulevard Branch and the addition of extra hours to Port St. Lucie and Hurston Branches. LM was asked to make a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners prior to the final vote on the budget. She showed that presentation to the advisory board at this time.

Discussion was held on when Port St. Lucie and Hurston Branches would move to five days a week. LM responded that we are hoping for beginning of December. She informed the board that it takes 90 days from posting to background checks to fill the new positions. Marjorie Harrell commented that the staff at Hurston Branch is a very special group. Library Manager said that our goal is to make every location a neighborhood branch. Ms. Harrell asked about getting a gardening program going at Hurston. LM responded that along with expanded hours comes expanded programming and a community garden has been discussed. She said that partnering with other community groups is also a consideration for projects such as this.

- LM gave an update on Rosser Boulevard Branch. She announced that we are slated for an April 2017 opening and the construction bid is set to hit in November 2015. Rudy Widman asked if the building had been gutted. LM responded that there has been partial demolition. The building will need a new roof as was reported at previous meetings. She said that we had applied for possible eligibility in an FPL program but the outcome was negative since the building already has many of the upgrades that the program offered. She said that we have also applied for a solar project which is pending. LM said that more information would be available at the next meeting when the bid is in place.

- Regarding the Library's presence on Facebook, Library Manager said that the feasibility for the Library to have its own page, independent of the county's page, was considered since the last meeting's motion. It was determined that given the staffing demands this would incur, we would not be able to pursue a Library page at this time. LM added that the County's Public Information Officer does an outstanding job with the St. Lucie County Facebook page and that he always promotes everything that the Library gives him to the fullest. LM pointed out that there is a link to the county's page on the Library website.
- Library Manager requested that the fees and fines discussion be tabled until the next meeting as there wasn't time to properly research the issue of whether the expense was worth the return.

New Business:

- LM proposed meeting dates for the upcoming year. 2016 dates proposed: January 11, April 18, July 18 and October 17. There were no objections to these dates. A question came up about where the dates are published. LM responded that we post them in the Library 30 days in advance of a meeting and it is also released to the press through the county's Public Information Officer. LM suggested that going forward we could have a page on our website with Library Advisory Board information including dates and minutes.
- A draft of St. Lucie County Library System Registration Policy was distributed for board review. LM explained that while we have had this information on the website for some time, we have not had a version approved by the advisory board. A suggestion was made to include a passport card as well as the book-type passport as acceptable identification. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Registration Policy as written with the addition of the passport card as suggested (Ethel Rowland/Eloise Cummings). The motion passed.
- The board saw a preview of the county's new web page along with the Library's pages. There was positive feedback. LM talked about some of the programming that we are advertising/featuring on the new page. She also reaffirmed that a link would be added for the Library Advisory Board information.

Friends of the Library Report:

- Carnelle Clifton talked about the upcoming Friends of St. Lucie County Library Annual Dinner Meeting on November 21, 2015. She said that the proceeds will be used to help fund the new Rosser Boulevard Branch. She reported that they are still working on getting donors and sponsors for the event and contributions would be welcome. The speaker for this year's event is Florida author and historian Gary Mormino.

Library Managers Report:

- LM reported that this year's Summer Reading Program was a great success. She stated that 2,100 reading logs were used by children, a 137% increase over last year's program. The teen program had a 57% increase over last year. She said that the Friends of the Library picked up the tab on the incentives for this year which included reading medals, which the kids loved, and grand prizes of a bicycle/helmet package and Kindles. She noted that the program included outreach to camps which brought the program to the kids.
- Library Manager reported that the process has begun to hire 8 new staff for the positions at Port St. Lucie and Hurston Branches.
- Library Manager informed the board that she would be attending a Florida Library Director's Meeting in Tallahassee next month. She said that the function brings together managers from 70 library systems from across the state for facilitated discussions and networking.

Board Comments:

- Jewel Player asked where we stand with Ask-A-Librarian and if the service will be discontinued. Library Manager responded that the service is underutilized but still funded by the state so it will continue to be offered.

Next meeting scheduled for January 11, 2016 at Fort Pierce at 5:30 PM.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting (Eloise Cummings/Ethel Rowland).

Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned by Chair, Dr. Rudy Widman, at 6:30 PM.

Minutes approved by Library Advisory Board on January 11, 2016.