

Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 16, 2017

Chair Ethel Rowland called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM in the Fort Pierce Branch Library Meeting Room.

Members in attendance: Ethel Rowland, Maureen Melvin, Eloise Cumings, Eukeba Jones, Jewel Armstrong Player and Rudy Widman. Also in attendance: Susan Jacob, Library Director and Nancy Woodfin, Library Administrative Specialist.

Absent were Carnelle Clifton and Marjorie Harrell.

The minutes from the last Board Meeting dated 7/17/2017 were distributed. A motion was made and seconded (Eloise Cumings/Eukeba Jones) to accept the minutes as distributed. The motion passed.

Old Business:

- Library Director gave an update on the upcoming Ribbon Cutting and Open House for the Paula A. Lewis Branch Library. She reported that they are still waiting for the Certificate of Occupancy and that it should come any time now. She said that staff have been working in the building since they received clearance from the fire department and that the Certificate of Occupancy clears the way to allow the general public into the building. LD reported that staff have shelved 14,000 books in one day on an all-staff work day. She said that the furniture has been delivered along with 70 computers for both staff and public. The branch will also feature an enhance Creation Station. LD reported that the PaLD Pointe School Jazz Band will perform at the ceremony. The branch will be open for business the next day with abbreviated hours for the remainder of the week and then regular hours the following week. She said that the Ribbon Cutting and Open House is open to the general public.
- LD gave an update on this year's County and Library budgets. All of the county budgets have passed. The Library's budget for FY17-18 is \$4.7 million. She reported that all county staff received a 5% raise this year. She said that county administration realizes the importance of a competitive wage and will be working towards this in the next few years.
- The topic of raising the age on youth Library cards was tabled until the next meeting.
- LD gave an update on the name change to the Fort Pierce Branch to the Susan B. Kilmer Branch. The signage is up and the name change has become official. There is also new signage on the rear of the building that reads: LIBRARY. LD said that the Friends may

still choose to do more in honor of Susan Kilmer. She also mentioned that the Fort Pierce building is in need of some updating like new carpet and upholstery which may take place next year.

New Business:

- LD gave a Library Advisory Board term update. She reported that Maureen Melvin's term is up at the end of this year. Mrs. Melvin thanked the board for the opportunity to serve and stated that she did not wish to be reappointed. She agreed to provide that information in writing to the board. LD asked the board to consider suggestions for a replacement. She said that there are actually 2 slots available on the board, one position is still vacant and available to be appointed by the Friends of St. Lucie County Library, the other replaces the at-large appointment vacated by Mrs. Melvin.
- Dates were discussed for LAB meetings for the upcoming year. It was decided that the dates for meetings would be January 22, April 16, July 16 and October 15, 2018.

Friends of the Library Report:

- Rudy Widman said that the Friends Treasurer reported at the October Friends meeting a balance of around \$1.17 million. Dr. Widman also reported that the annual meeting event is upcoming and slated for Saturday, November 11 beginning at 5:30 PM at the new Paula A. Lewis Branch Library. The event features a celebration of the new branch with speaker, Brad Meltzer.
- Rudy Widman reported that the Friends held their election of officers and the results are as follows: Carnelle Clifton, President, Paula Lewis, Vice President, Barnette Miller Moore, Secretary and Padrick Pinkney, Treasurer.
- Rudy Widman reported that Jim Wilder gave an update on the law library. He stated that revenues were down by about 9% this year. The law library is funded in part by traffic tickets. He also mentioned that the law library will have a new branch inside the Lewis Library.

Library Director's Report:

- LD reported that the Library System fared very well over all through Hurricane Irma. Fort Pierce had a little bit of roof leakage. She also informed the board that FEMA has set up a temporary office at the Lakewood Park Branch Library for disaster assistance. She said that they would be at the branch from 7 AM to 6 PM for as long as there was a need. She reported that some 20 library staff members worked during the storm including manning hurricane shelters and staffing phone lines.

- LD reported that the Library is now a Department and she has been promoted to Library Director. Beth Ryder has retired as Director of Community Services and Diana Wesloski has been promoted to fill her position.
- LD spoke about Library Programs and how they have blossomed at all branches in the past year. The Summer Reading Program had less kids complete the challenge this year. There was difficulty in getting participation from the summer camps. She said that each year we try something new to increase participation and we will work toward that again next year.
- LD reported that she would be attending the Annual Library Directors Meeting at the State Library in Tallahassee this month. Rudy Widman asked about an Annual Report at the Friends Meeting in November. LD responded that she would not be making a speech this year but would be submitting a State of the Library report to the Friends. She said that she would speak about community input and plans for a survey at the January LAB meeting.

Board Comments:

- Ethel Rowland thanked Susan Jacob and the library staff for all of their hard work on the new branch.

Next meeting scheduled for January 22, 2018 at 5:30 PM at the Fort Pierce Branch.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded (Eloise Cumings/Eukeba Jones). The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Minutes approved by the Library Advisory Board on January 22, 2018