

Fayetteville-Lincoln County Public Library

Library Board Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2025

Library Board Meeting Attendees:

Mr. Josh Blackburn, Chairman

Ms. Tricia Keenan

Mr. Brian Carter

Ms. Andrea Delap

Ms. Rachel Muzzarelli

Ms. Audra Bradford

Ms. Meghan Murr, Library Director

Ms. Anne Osborne, Buffalo River Regional Assistant Director

Call to Order/Welcome

Mr. Blackburn opened the Library Board meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025. He called to order the meeting and a roll call was completed.

November Meeting Minutes

Ms. Murr provided the members with a copy of the November 2024 board meeting minutes for review. Ms. Delap made a motion to accept the minutes and Ms. Muzzarelli seconded the motion. All members were in favor of approval.

Regional Library Report

Ms. Osborne provided our members with a copy of the Buffalo River Regional Library Report for January 2025. She reported that the Artificial Intelligence (AI): Impact and Use in Public Libraries event was very well received. There will likely be another AI event put together at a later time. She also reminded everyone that all the 2025 LSTA Technology Grants deadline is approaching. She is encouraging all orders to be turned in by the end of the month. Additionally, the Summer Reading 2025 program materials will be distributed soon. The title is "Color Our World". Ms. Osborne mentioned that the Lawrence County Library has a new director, Ms. Marie Brennan and also mentioned that the next regional library holiday occurs on Monday, January 20, 2025 for Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Finally, Ms. Osborne provided a statistical report for FY 2023/2024. All members reviewed the stats for the Fayetteville Lincoln County Library in comparison to other Level 4 libraries in the region. It reflects areas that this library can focus on growing.

New Business

Ms. Murr provided everyone the financial report. The balance sheet and revenues/expenses as of December 31, 2024 were reviewed and she noted the operations and memorial balances as of January 27, 2025. Ms. Delap made a motion to accept the report and Ms. Keenan seconded. All approved.

The next topic was the maintenance for the fiction shelving. It is older and currently leaning under the weight of the books. Other similar shelving has previously been reinforced and the plan is to update these as well. This will require a closure to conduct these repairs. Ms. Murr recommended closing on February 7th and 8th and having the staff work on these updates. In addition, they will be putting together furniture that has been received and get it out for use. Mr. Carter made a motion to have this closure for the purpose of these improvements. Ms. Bradford seconded and all approved.

Ms. Murr brought to the members the idea of a community wish list. This has been done in other libraries and would allow people to donate to the library at all levels. Ms. Murr would set up an Amazon wish list where someone could select something wanted for the library and it would be sent directly to the library. She provided an example wish list which would go beyond books and include games, learning resources and kits. Ms. Muzzarelli made a motion to establish the community wish list and Ms. Delap seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Murr informed the board that the City had requested budgets be submitted by February 25, 2025 and it is expected the County will have a similar date. She has requested that we have a budget meeting well ahead of this deadline to finalize a budget. Everyone agreed on a budget meeting on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Finally, Ms. Murr presented an updated FLCPL staff dress code policy. After review of the code, it was determined that this code needed to be brought up to more modern times. She distributed recommendations for review and discussion. There have not been many instances of needing to address attire but when faced with confronting an infraction, she would have a reference to point the employee to. Ms. Bradford made a motion to accept these updates and Ms. Keenan seconded. All approved.

Director's Report

Ms. Murr reported that all was going well in the day-to-day operations of the library. The last month saw 1849 patrons, 1083 physical checkouts, and 2967 digital checkouts. There were 9 programs conducted with 300 attendees.

The homeschool program start was delayed but will begin on February 1st. Additionally, that date is international take a child to the library day. There are program activities scheduled including the introduction of Lincoln, the new library mascot.

Ms. Murr said the library was chosen to participate in One Small Step which is hosted by Story Corps. One Small Step brings people with different views together to record a conversation — not to debate politics — but simply to get to know each other as people. There was a \$1200 stipend and Ms. Murr will be attending monthly class training for conducting this program. She also reported Read Across America is in March and the library is partnering with Main Street and will be the first stop in this project.

Closure

Mr. Carter made a motion to adjourn and Ms. Delap seconded. Mr. Blackburn adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m. The next meeting will be the budget meeting and is scheduled for Monday, February 10, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.