

MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
February 14, 2023

I. Call to Order

In the absence of President Mary Welken, the meeting was conducted by Suzanne Carter who called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. at Towns County Public Library, Hiawassee, Georgia.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Marlene Cannon, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Rose Mary Crook, Kathy Day, Barbara Hale, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Gigi Smith, and Delores Staton. Heath Lee, Director MRLS was also present.

Board members not present: Judith Lee and Mary Welken.

II. Welcome

Suzanne Carter welcomed everyone and introduced Rose Mary Crook, the new FOLTC Vice President for those who had not yet met her. Each person introduced themselves and stated their position on the board.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the December, 2022 board meeting were presented by Kathy Day. Barbara Hale moved that the minutes be accepted with corrections; motion was seconded by Jim Reynolds; passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Jim Reynolds provided the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Beginning balance was **\$26,729.23**. Total income to date was **\$10,315.60**. Total expenses from December 1 – December 31, 2022 were **\$530.00**. Total expenditures for 2022 were **\$15,049.13**. The balance as of December 31, 2022 is **\$21,995.70**, with encumbered funds of **\$6,500.00** and with unencumbered funds of **\$15,495.70**. The financial report was accepted.

Jim reported that he has made the filing for Georgia non-profit status and is working on the federal filing. Amazon Smile program is being discontinued by Amazon effective February 28, 2022.

V. Library Report

Marlene Cannon reported the following activities have been conducted with the assistance of funds provided by FOLTC:

- STEM kits have been prepared. There are 4 kits per library and are available for check out.
- Fall Bash had 75 attendees at MRL
- Trick or Treat at the Fairgrounds had over 2500 kids participate
- Veterans Tree was on display at TCPL with photos of honored veterans
- Grinchmas Cookie Swap had 10 participants
- Story Time is ongoing every Tuesday for 1 – 5 year olds
- Galentine's cocoa bomb making party

Heath Lee reported circulation and usage statistics are increasing at both branches.

VI. Book Bunch 'n Lunch

Gigi Smith reported the February book will be Old Bones by Aaron Elkins. The March book will be The Maid by Nita Prose. The April book will be To Dance with the White Dog by Terry Kay. Multiple copies of the chosen titles are available at the library circulation desks for book club members.

Gigi raised the issue that there has been a challenge getting some of the titles in Large Print. This will be discussed at the next Book Bunch 'n Lunch meeting. Marlene Cannon stated that many times the books they have pulled from shelves and through Pines for book club members are never utilized.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee did not attend but sent her report with Suzanne. Letters were sent to Doris Tilly, David and Joyce Geiger, and the Sharp Tones.

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh reported that donations have been received regularly at both libraries. Jim and Linda Worl have moved out of the area so others have been helping take care of their responsibilities at TCPL and MRL bookstores. There is a need for a shed sorting day to organize inventory for upcoming book sale. A two week book sale was proposed for May 2023. Marcia will consult with Marlene about dates.

IX. Bake and Pie Sales

There is no chairperson for this committee. A bake sale was proposed to be held sometime in fall 2023. Further details will be discussed at a later meeting.

X. Membership

Rose Carter reported there are 127 current members as follows: 4 Business, 40 Individual, 26 Family, 12 Sponsor, 19 Donor, 17 Patron, 3 Honorary, and 6 Life. There were 13 renewals in November, December, and January. She sent 85 renewal requests to expired members last month and 3 of these renewed. In 2022 only 3 new non-business members joined.

XI. Newsletter

Darlene Pilcher stated that the deadline for May newsletter articles is April 30th.

XII. Publicity

Suzanne Carter continues to provide updates to the FOLTC website (www.foltc.com), the FaceBook page, and provided an article to the newspaper about the 26th anniversary celebration.

XIII. Old Business

- a. 26th Anniversary Celebration – the celebration luncheon was a success!

- b. Library Funds 2023 – A request was made by Marlene Cannon for a yearly commitment from FOLTC to support the MRLS Staff Development day. Darlene Pilcher made a motion that FOLTC encumber \$350 annually to support staff development day until such time as a decision is made by the board to increase or decrease that amount. The motion was seconded by Rose Carter; passed unanimously.

- c. Funds provided for Heath's going-away party – an email vote had been taken to provide funds for this party. When Heath decided to stay, the funds were returned to FOLTC since there was no need for the party.

XIV. New Business

There was no New Business on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m. by Suzanne Carter.

APPROVED April 11, 2023