

MINUTES
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
April 11, 2023

I. Call to Order

President Mary Welken called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, Georgia.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Marlene Cannon, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Rose Mary Crook, Kathy Day, Barbara Hale, Judith Lee, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Delores Staton, and Mary Welken. Friend, Sven Legg-Grady was also present.

Board members not present: Gigi Smith.

II. Welcome

Mary Welken welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. Minutes

The minutes of the February, 2023 board meeting were presented by Kathy Day. Barbara Hale moved that the minutes be accepted; motion was seconded by Suzanne Carter; passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Jim Reynolds provided the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1 - March 31, 2023. Beginning balance was **\$21,995.70**. Total income to date was **\$2,688.88**. Total expenses from January 1 – March 31, 2023 were **\$54.00**. The balance as of March 31, 2023 is **\$24,630.58**, with encumbered funds of **\$6,850.00** and with unencumbered funds of **\$17,780.58**. The financial report was accepted.

V. Library Report

Marlene Cannon reported the following activities have been conducted recently:

- "Bad Art" contest for adults
- Galentine's cocoa bomb making party
- Weekly storytime for pre-schoolers at TCPL continues to grow
- Lunar New Year lantern making and Mardi Gras decorating for older children
- Towns County Libraries were invited to participate in "Read Across America" activities at Towns County Elementary School

- Partnered with Towns County Historical Society to host 2 viewings of the 1956 Centennial celebration
- Preparation has begun for annual summer reading programs

VI. Book Bunch 'n Lunch

In Gigi Smith's absence, Barbara Hale reported the April book will be To Dance with the White Dog by Terry Kay. The May book will be The Guest List by Lucy Foley. Multiple copies of the chosen titles are available at the library circulation desks for book club members.

VII. Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee reported letters were sent to Julia Giller, Roberta Rankin, The Coca Cola ICO American Online Giving Foundation, Noel and Jean Turner, Dorothy Beck, Marilyn Brown, Barbara and Bob Bone, and John Carawan.

VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales

Marcia Aunspaugh reported that the storage shed is packed with books in preparation for the book sale. Mary Welken and Elaine Roberts will share responsibility for the bookstore at TCPL. Kathy Day will be responsible for hardback fiction at MRL. The dates for the honor system book sale will be during library hours May 15 – 26 at both libraries.

IX. Bake and Pie Sales

There is no chairperson for this committee.

X. Membership

Rose Carter reported there are 116 current members as follows: 4 Business, 37 Individual, 23 Family, 9 Sponsor, 19 Donor, 15 Patron, 3 Honorary, and 6 Life.

XI. Newsletter

Darlene Pilcher stated that the deadline for May newsletter articles is April 30th. She requested that all articles be submitted using the Georgia font, size 12.

XII. Publicity

Suzanne Carter continues to provide updates to the FOLTC website (www.foltc.com), the FaceBook page, and provides articles to the newspaper promoting our activities.

XIII. Old Business

There was no Old Business on the agenda.

XIV. New Business

- a. May Book Sale – see above under Bookstore/Book Sales

- b. 2023 National Library Worker Day April 25th
Suzanne Carter moved that FOLTC provide a \$25 Ingles gift card to each library employee in recognition of this day. The motion was seconded by Marcia Aunspaugh; passed unanimously.

- c. Commissioner's Matching Grant
A request had previously been made by Heath Lee, MRL Director, to increase the annual amount of the Commissioner's Matching Grant. Discussion ensued in this regard and general consensus was this request should go first to the Towns County Commissioner from the Director. Then if the Commissioner agreed, the matter could be considered by the FOLTC board. Given the uncertainty of our ability to raise funds from year to year, there was concern about making a long term commitment to a higher specific amount in lieu of having the flexibility to honor fund requests as needs arise and funds are available.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. by Mary Welken.

APPROVED June 6, 2023