

**MINUTES**  
**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**August 8, 2023**

**I. Call to Order**

President Mary Welken called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, GA.

Board members present were: Marcia Aunspaugh, Rose Carter, Suzanne Carter, Rose Mary Crook, Barbara Hale, Ann Lewis, Darlene Pilcher, Jim Reynolds, Elaine Roberts, Gigi Smith, Delores Staton, and Mary Welken.

Board members not present: Kathy Day and Judith Lee.

**II. President's Report**

President Welken welcomed everyone. She introduced Ann Lewis, the new Branch Manager of Mountain Regional Library. All board members introduced themselves and their job titles.

**III. Minutes**

The minutes of the June 6, 2023 board meeting were presented by Suzanne Carter. Marcia Aunspaugh moved that the minutes be accepted with three corrections made; motion was seconded by Jim Reynolds; passed unanimously.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Jim Reynolds presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of January 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023. Beginning balance was **\$21,995.70**. Total income was **\$5,905.02**. Total expenses were **\$6,437.00**. The balance as of July 31, 2023 is **\$21,463.72**, with encumbered funds of **\$6,100.00** and with unencumbered funds of **\$15,363.72**. The financial report was accepted

**V. Library Report**

Ann Lewis, MRL Branch Manager (who shares the board position with Kevin Kirby, TCPL Branch Manager), shared library events, many that have been possible with funding from FOLTC. She reported that the new hours for MRL have been updated on all social media accounts and websites, including Google, Facebook, and Yelp. Please let her know if anyone finds a site that needs updating. There is still an opening for Youth Services Coordinator for MRL. Ann is reaching out to community organizations and has connected with the Towns County school system, Young Harris College, and the City of Young Harris.

Recent events included the UGA Athletics traveling tour and the Back to School Scavenger Hunt. New programs will include After School Activities on Tuesdays at MRL and Help with Homework on Thursdays at TCPL. Beginning in September there will be a baby/toddler storytime weekly event. Adult programming will include a lecture series: (1) on September 12<sup>th</sup> will be a discussion of Underwater Ghost Towns of North Georgia by Lisa M. Russell. (2) October 17<sup>th</sup> will be Frankenstein by Mary Shelley.

There were three funding requests:

(1) Fall Festival at the fairgrounds, funds for food treats, \$50 per library; Cookies With the Grinch, \$25 per library; After School snacks, \$30 per library; for a total of \$210.00. Marcia Aunspaugh moved to provide \$210.00 for food purchases; Rose Carter seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

(2) MRL needs to increase their chapter book section for young readers; \$600 requested. Darlene Pilcher moved to provide \$1,000 for chapter books for MRL; Rose Carter seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

(3) Materials are needed for MRL's baby/toddler storytime, \$110 requested. Barbara Hale moved to provide \$110 for storytime at MRL; Rose Mary Crook seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

Barbara Hale brought up the issue of lack of parking at MRL in the upper parking lot due to staff cars taking up half of the spaces. Ann said she will research the issue.

#### **VI. Book Bunch 'n Lunch**

Gigi Smith reported the August book will be Daisy Darker: A Novel by Alice Feeney. The September book will be Hallowed Halls by Hannah Alexander. Multiple copies of the chosen titles are available at the MRL circulation desk for book club members.

#### **VII. Corresponding Secretary**

Judith Lee was absent and did not send a report.

#### **VIII. Bookstore/Book Sales**

Marcia Aunspaugh reported that donations have been good for both libraries; there have been less books to recycle after the recent Towns County Herald Letter to the Editor regarding donations. Rose will send an email reminder about the next donation day on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Marcia does not want to have a fall book sale (she recommended a bake sale instead).

### **IX. Bake and Pie Sales**

Darlene Pilcher has agreed to serve as the Bake Sale chairperson, with help from Rose Carter and Rose Mary Crook. It was agreed to have a one-day bake sale at MRL on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, during library hours. Baked goods will be dropped off at the library the day before the sale. Ann will make sure that this is agreeable with the director and the calendar.

### **X. Membership**

Rose Carter reported that there are a few new members. Membership is as follows: 4 business, 37 individual, 22 family, 7 sponsors, 14 donors, 14 patrons, 3 honorary, and 6 life members, for a total of 107 current members.

### **XI. Newsletter**

Darlene Pilcher stated the deadline for the Fall newsletter articles is October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **XII. Publicity**

Suzanne Carter had nothing to report. She will handle publicity for the bake sale.

### **XIII. Old Business**

a. Update bylaws – Mary Welken, Barbara Hale, and Suzanne Carter met to discuss possible changes/clarifications for the bylaws. These changes will probably not be presented to the board until the new year.

### **XIV. New Business**

- a. Peach State Federal Credit Union donation – The last installment of the \$2,500 grant from the credit union has been received. FOLTC has received notification of a new grant of \$1,500.00 (\$500/year for 3 years).
- b. Fall Bake Sale – This has been discussed in section IX.
- c. Other – Suzanne suggested that we think about options for the December Annual Meeting to attract more members. It will be discussed at the October meeting. Mary Welken will not be present; Rose Mary Crook will preside.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m. by President Mary Welken.  
The next meeting will be October 10, 2023, at TCPL.

Approved October 10, 2023