



## **Minutes of the Volusia County Library Advisory Board Meeting**

**Friday, March 25, 2022**

**Port Orange Regional Library**

**1005 City Center Circle**

**Port Orange, FL 32129**

**(386)-322-5152**

### **Attending Members:**

Louise Caccamise, District 1  
Marjorie Johnson, District 2  
Rev. Donald Needham, District 3  
Christy Jefferson, District 5  
Thomas Hart, At Large

### **Non-Attending Members:**

Patsy Franklin, District 4  
Debra Grabowski, At Large

### **Staff:**

Lucinda Colee, Library Director  
Sharon Whitt, Recorder

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### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Thomas called meeting to order at 10:05am

### **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Don moved the adoption as published.  
Marjorie seconded.  
All were in favor  
Minutes were approved.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

### **Budget Update:**

The library is planning FY 2023 budget at the rollback rate, which would give the same tax funding as FY 2022. With this rollback a 4% or \$1 staff wage adjustment is anticipated. Wage increase must continue to move forward to get to the \$15 minimum, and to maintain staff retention.

The library board anticipates having a July Library Board Meeting to go over the planned budget before submitting to county council.

FY2023 budget hearings are scheduled for September 6th and 20th, 2022 at 6:00pm.

Lucinda suggested that the library will need much support from library board members, staff, library users, and story-time attended families to attend the budget hearings.

The FY2022 budget discussed at the podium was a capital improvement project of floor coverings for the Deltona Regional Library. Some residents have voiced there is no need for some floor coverings at this location which has caused a reduction in the floor covering project from \$400,000.00 to \$93,000.00. The project will now only focus on the teen area, youth services, and the Lyonia Environmental Center classroom.

The current council will make the decisions for the FY2023 budget.

### **Capital Improvement Projects Update:**

The Edgewater Library roof project has been approved but there will be a 10 – 12 month delay and rolled into next fiscal year to start the project because of a delay in receiving the materials.

On April 19<sup>th</sup> the county council will decide on the Deltona floor covering project to move forward with the reduced budget. The library will plan in later fiscal years to replace the floor coverings in the adult areas, and expand the children's area with a new wall system to adjust to the increased attendance during story-time.

### **Legislative Update:**

State Aid (See handout: [Attachment B Fiscal Year 2021-22 State Aid to Libraries Final Grants](#)) –

The library will receive an approximate increase of \$80,000.00 in state aid for a total of \$338,459.00. This state aid is a legislative appropriation of a total amount included in a formula based on local effort to calculate how much each County library system will receive. The equalization grants for lower income counties is taken first.

Don asked what place Volusia County Public Library holds within state aid distribution.

Lucinda commented that VCPL does very well overall compared to other counties of similar size with rural and urban areas, but she thinks that all Florida state libraries may see a decrease during FY2024 because last year the legislature did not fund state aid at the maintenance of effort level (based on the population of the state) in order to receive federal funding and since they are 2 years behind in receiving federal funding. It is unknown if the state will receive funding in FY2024.

Federal funding is used for training, website development, databases, etc.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT continued:**

Career Online High School –

Unknown if the program will be funded in FY2023.

The library has received the first graduate of the program and will plan a graduation reception for the Edgewater recipient who has received the accredited diploma.

This program is through a private company that has contracted with the state through legislative appropriation and administered through private libraries throughout the state.

VCPL was originally granted ten, \$2500.00 scholarships by the state and has provided more scholarships as the library adds new recipients. There is also a career certificate program included that students can select. This service is listed on the library's website and includes a FAQ section. The program was initiated during 2016, but this is VCPL's first year participation, with 3 staff coordinators: Ann Vernon, Southeast; Chett Wood, Northeast, and Cammie Newton, West.

Christy suggested a follow-up in the newspaper about the program and the first VCPL graduate.

Don asked if any organization could contribute to the \$2500 scholarship grant and suggested he could assist with finding additional funding for the program.

Lucinda answered yes, but the organization would contract with Career Online High School scholarships.

### **Volusia Reads Together: (See handout: [VRT Event Catalog handout](#))**

Community wide reading program.

Each board member received a hard copy of this year's read, "Shoeless Joe" by W.P. Kinsella

The entire program has been very successful with 200 programs around the county.

Karen Poulsen, Activity Project Mgr. staged an original play at the Port Orange Regional Library and five showings at the New Smyrna Beach Theatre. The final program will be a field day at the Daytona Beach Regional Library on Saturday, April 2, 2022 with music, games, food, the Tortuga mascot, and a mini petting zoo.

Library staff have already began to plan next year's read, possibly "The Martian", by Andrew Weir; but it is still in the planning process.

Library Management Team will make the final decision on the next read.

### **Grants:**

Emergency Connectivity Fund update –

This grant allowed an increase of HotSpots to 1000. The library has permission to apply to the FCC grant for an additional year during the April 2022 opening. The grant allows reimbursement for the cost of the monthly HotSpot service. VCPL will reduce the number of HotSpots when it is no longer able to receive the grant.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT continued:**

Institute of Museums and Library Services –

ARPA Grant Update: Mobile Technology lab. [STEM Van Picture handout](#)

The lab will provide staff to take the van to schools, after-school programs, summer camps, and to smaller branches. A staff team is currently developing a STEM curriculum to utilize the equipment provided in the STEM Van (iPads, drones, OSMO classroom learning, Makey Makey classroom kit). The VCPL team will also work on stop motion animation, and coding.

Ann Collins, West Regional Mgr. applied for the grant.

Florida Department of Library Services –

ARPA Grant Update – Charlie Cart Project. [Charlie Cart Picture handout](#)

This project consist of county wide library staff team. They are working on a Family Culinary Literacy curriculum to include how to stretch money to prepare nutritious meals, food safety, etc. 90 programs will be presented by September 30, 2022 to meet the grant. Once the library has met the grant, it will use the cart to fulfill adult programs, etc. The program has already began with a pop up program at the Ormond Regional Library. Ray Leonard presented a program on how to use cooking knives.

Melissa Reynolds, Northeast Regional Mgr. applied for the grant.

Florida Department of Library Services –

Northeast Florida Library Information Network – ARPA Grant Update – 2 grants:

1. Received \$20,000 to purchase ebooks on the Overdrive database
2. Library was able to purchase 6 AWE computers (early learning computers)

The computers were placed at the Hope Place, Pierson, John H. Dickerson, Deland, and Deltona libraries.

Social Worker in the Library Update –

Received \$480,000 from Volusia County Council ARPA

Funded over a 3-year period to hire 2 social workers for the West and East of Volusia County, with scheduled hours at each of the libraries. They will be working under the Community Assistance Dept.

The Community Assistance department will make sure each social worker receive SOAR certification to assist patrons with applying with disability to work with eligible clients and help identify clients needing assistance within the county. The library is also working on a Volusia Cares database. Staff will be working with nonprofits in Volusia County to maintain the database to accurately refer clients to different agencies.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT continued:**

### **Partnerships:**

Student Success Access Pass Update –

On the agenda for an April school board meeting for approval and can move forward with the program once approved. Students will have ability to use their student alpha code to use library computers, check out 3 books, access to other library services and databases.

Parents have an option to opt out of the program.

VCPS – Summer Partnership –

Working with Beanstacks software under partnership with Volusia County Public Schools. Students received credit and badges for their summer reading along with library reading.

Chris Smith with VCPS applied for a \$5000.00 futures grant to bring in five mid-summer programs to invite the public school students who reach a certain point in their reading for the summer and library reading participants to programs provided by Central Florida Zoo and Gatorland.

Four of the programs will be in Pierson (one in the new townhall), and one in Deland.

Advent Health – Will provide the [1000 Books brochure](#) and [Early Learning at the Library brochure](#) in their Postpartum gift packages for new parents.

The library is also anticipating a similar partnership with Halifax Health.

A new [Teen Services brochure](#) was also given to library board members to view.

Volusia County Summer Camp Partnership –

Partnership with 17 Volusia camp sites to provide a collection of books. Each camp will set aside 30 minutes for kids to read and counselors to read to the kids. The camp will also plan trips to the library and library staff will also visit camps. Camp sites will also provide a summer reading challenge with a pizza party at the end of the camp season. The camps are for school-aged youth.

### **Infor:**

Integrated Library System software – RFP- The library was informed on February 1<sup>st</sup> that the ILS software was sold to Axiel, a company out of Sweden. Axiel is currently maintaining our current software but anticipate transitioning VCPL into their software. The library is not sure of this transition since Axiel is a foreign company and all of its libraries are foreign.

VCPL is working on a scope of work request for proposals to go out to bid in search for a new integrated library system. The ILS system is also used for the front face catalog patrons use to reserve books and search the catalog.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Marjorie suggested to have a library board meeting at the John H. Dickerson Library. Marjorie also commented an issue needs to be addressed concerning excessive loud, distracting/disturbing phone conversations at the John H. Dickerson library in the computer room. She would like to have staff direct patrons to step outside of the library during phone conversations.

Lucinda mentioned she will look into this issue.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

Tom asked if the library will still have the food drop off service during the summer. Lucinda answered the library will have eight locations involved with the summer food drop off program.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Thomas adjourned meeting at 11:04am

Next meeting scheduled: Friday, May 20, 2022 at 10:00am.

Location: Ormond Beach Regional Library, 30 S. Beach St., Ormond Beach, FL. 32174

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Whitt