



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

**Friday, January 19, 2024**

**Deland Regional Library**

**130 E. Howry Ave**

**Deland, FL 32724**

**(386)-822-6430**

**Attending Members:**

- Deborah Dubois, District 1
- Patsy Franklin, District 4
- Debra Grabowski, At Large
- Marjorie Johnson, District 2
- Rev. Donald Needham, District 3
- Paul Richardson, At Large

**Non-Attending Members:**

- Christy Jefferson, District 5

**Staff:**

- Lucinda Colee, Library Director
- Sharon Whitt, Recorder

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Don called meeting to order at 10:00am

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

November 17, 2023 minutes were approved.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**Staff Changes:**

Activity Project Manager vacant position was changed to Assistant Library Director.

Northeast Regional Librarian Melissa Reynolds has been promoted to the Assistant Library Director position, but is currently working as interim West Regional Librarian while the library seeks to fill the position.

The Northeast Regional Librarian is now vacant. Regional Librarian IV, Jorge Perez will serve as interim until the library fills the position.

The library is currently interviewing for two Librarian IV positions for the Ormond Beach and Deltona Regional Libraries. Interviews will start during the week of January 22, 2024.

Don asked if there are any internal staff that could fill the positions.

Lucinda answered that she has been advertising the positions and have had some internal staff submit applications.

Marjorie asked who are the interviewers for the position.

Lucinda answered there is a panel that includes herself, Melissa Reynolds (Assistant Director, and currently interim West Regional Librarian), Tammy Heuring (Support Services Manager), and Brook White (Collection Development Manager), and sometimes other regional librarians.

Interviews for the new Marketing Specialist position will begin Monday, January 22, 2024 which includes interview panel Lucinda Colee, Jane Weimer, Melissa Reynolds, and a representative from Community Information.

Marjorie suggested more diversification of the workforce because she regularly visits all the libraries and notice there needs to be more staff diversification.

### **Dickerson Library Update**

Library was flooded during hurricane Ian and the restoration project has begun with replacement of drywall, painting, and reseal the exterior. Lucinda mentioned that the project may be completed before the furniture arrives. Furniture including shelving has been delayed.

Marjorie asked where library will get books to replace in the branch.

Lucinda answered there will be an opening day collection to select new materials. Materials will also come from other branches. The majority of the A/V collection was saved and is currently at the Library Support Center.

Lucinda and Melissa Reynolds have selected furniture for the building. The Restoration portion will be twelve percent, reimbursed by FEMA, and insurance pays for some of the restoration.

Restoration starts after January 1, 2024.

Paul asked if there will be restoration of flooding mitigation.

Lucinda answered there will be no flooding mitigation at this time because at this time FEMA has not said the library needs to mitigate.

The Dickerson library sits in the surrounding area which is currently under a two-year study of core engineers for flood mitigation, therefore the library may have access to DR fund (Community Block Disaster Relief funds) mitigation for the area.

### **Integrated Library System Update:**

A letter of intent has been signed with TLC/CARL (The Library Corporation) for the online catalog and circulation system. There was a kickoff meeting on January 16, 2024. The agreement has not gone to county council, but hoping it will be on the February 6<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> meeting

The library will save \$65,624.00 in the first year and a total savings of \$591,344.00 over ten years by switching vendors.

Don asked if there are a reduction of services lost because of the switch.

Lucinda answered no. The system will be more robust and more all-inclusive. The two biggest features that will impact service are a cloud-based system which will avoid the need to buy servers, and a better online catalog system with the ability to do a consolidated search. It will provide one

result with multiple formats within one search for a particular title. It will show every format to select under one search. For example, a patron will no longer need to scroll through various pages to find large print.

There are no downsides unless data doesn't migrate well.

Don asked what is the timing for implementation of the new ILS migration.

Lucinda answered, training will begin in mid-April for staff, testing will start in May, system will tentatively go live by June 10<sup>th</sup>. The contract with Axiel (current vender) ends on June 30<sup>th</sup> so want to have new system up and running to avoid additional payments.

### **Collection Use (See Handout):**

Top circulated items from the branches for year 2023 in each genre of Adult Fiction, Adult Non-Fiction, Juvenile, and Teen

Deborah Dubois suggested to make handout available to the public.

### **County Council Meeting Dates/Times (See Handout):**

Lucinda provided handout of County Council members, County Council Calendar of meeting dates and times, and handout from council goal setting session that reflect the goals of the council.

Don asked board members to encourage friends to make use and become familiar with all of the library services, including the online services.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Snapshot Day (See Handout):** Press release of annual snapshot day on February 7, 2024. Everything done in the branches on that day is calculated to make awareness of the day and the life of what goes on in a public library and how the public use library facilities. The press release includes highlights of last year's events: 5,715 items that were checked out; 815 questions answered by reference librarians; 481 computer sessions; 590 attendees at library programs; 113 received computer literacy; 63 new library cards issued.

Don asked how the public can be aware of snapshot day statistics and suggested posting at the checkout desk.

Lucinda answered the library also includes on the website and provides posters though out the branches.

**Volusia Reads Together (See Handout):** Lucinda provided to board members A copy of the book, "Other Birds" by Sarah Addison Allen, and an activity booklet.

The program will start on March 1, 2024. This year's book is an adult book so all of the programs will be adult oriented.

There will be a preview at the Port Orange Regional library. The last original play written by Karen Poulsen will be at The Little Theater, 726 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, New Smyrna Beach, FL. 32169.

Lucinda will send out a program booklet to board members with date and times of all the programs.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Melissa Reynolds expressed her excitement as the new Assistant Library Director position.

## **BOARD DISCUSSION:**

Anne Powers has retired and was very touched by the letter Deborah Dubois wrote on behalf of the board. Anne worked 35 years with Volusia County Public Library.

Don commented on his appreciation of the board stepping forward in participating and serving the Library Advisory Board and would like to continue having physical meeting rather than virtual meetings. He also mentioned that it's important to show the council that the board is not just an organization on paper but do participate with functions of the library.

Marjorie mentioned that her representative attended a neighborhood watch meeting and he expressed to Marjorie that people must complete an application to be appointed on county boards.

Don reiterated the concern for the board to make sure the Friends of the Library group are properly organized and have the responsibility to be in complete control of anything touched within the FOL groups. FOL should also be able to answer questions if the council or public donating books find that money is being embezzled. There needs to be accountability by the FOL groups because there is money involved and there should be no responsibility on anyone within the library to be guilty by association. Also, that the library did all possible to make sure the FOL groups are held accountable with bookkeeping and audits for all FOL dealings and the dealings are not in any way associated with the library system.

Deborah mentioned that people need to be educated that FOL groups are a separate organization from the library although they do business in the library.

Lucinda commented that the resolution does not include FOL within because the Library Advisory Board does not have any control over the FOL groups. Lucinda has consulted with the county attorney's office which has reiterated that the county library board is not associated with FOL groups and they are a separate entity.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at 10:42am

Next meeting scheduled: Friday, March 22, 2024 at 10:00am.

Location: Daytona Beach Regional Library

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Whitt