

THE FREE PRESS

April 2021



Spring has sprung in Scottsville...and so has a Story Walk based on *The Kindness Book* by Todd Parr!

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BOARD MEETING REPORT

Virtual Library Board Meeting: March 22, 2021

Submitted by Ginny Reese, Board Reporter

Trustees Present: Wendy Craig, Kathy Harris, Marcia McDuffie, Carla Mullen, Michael Powers, Tony Townsend, Thomas Unsworth, James West.

Staff Present: Jerry Carchedi, Krista Farrell, David Plunkett, Ginny Reese, Zachary Weisser.

Board President McDuffie re-affirmed the May 18 resolution allowing the Library Board meeting to proceed electronically in real time due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Announcements: Trustee Craig congratulated Trustee Woolfork on her moderation of the Jacqueline Woodson Same Page event. The Friends of JMRL are starting the Sunday Bag Sales again every other Sunday at least through April [so 4/11 and 4/25]. The Friends will also be working on a virtual trivia night as a fundraiser. Trustee Harris complimented the Northside staff for excellent service at the drive through window. Trustee Unsworth gave an update on the grant for VDOT sidewalk improvements. The grant was awarded but was not enough for the complete project, so currently the sidewalk is only planned to reach the library.

Trustee Continuing Education: *Bibliostat*. (David Plunkett, Library Director) The Director reviewed the process of central data collection to which all public libraries in Virginia, and nationally, contribute. All kinds of data is contributed to a 65 page webform, covering staffing, collection and circulation information, programming, funding, and branch information. Submitting this data, which takes several months to collect is under the purview of the JMRL Business Manager, and is due in October, annually. The name "Bibliostat" refers to the software product by Baker & Taylor that JMRL uses to collect and submit data. This data is used to make funding decisions, for IMLS grants, and to make comparisons between libraries. "Bibliostat Connect-Collect" software can compare any set of libraries on any data that is in Bibliostat. JMRL often

compares itself to our Virginia and to our national peer libraries. The data in Bibliostat can be used to talk to jurisdictions about funding, staffing, buildings, etc.

New Business:

1. Vote on Policy 4.232 (Conduct in JMRL). This policy has been discussed twice at Board meetings and was read in its current draft iteration at the February Board meeting. The changes to the policy since it was last revised are not substantive, but mostly a re-write to make the policy more user friendly. The Policy passed by majority vote.

Committee Appointments and Reports:

1. Five Year Plan Committee Report. (Trustee McDuffie, Board President) Trustee McDuffie reviewed progress on goals in the Plan. Goal 1, "Access and Outreach" and Goal 2, "Technology" are proceeding well. Section 3, "Staffing, will see a review of salary compression issues. In FY22 a revised pay scale addressing state and federal minimum wage limits will be complete. Goal 4, "Collection" will see full update of the collection at Nelson Memorial Library by the end of FY21. FY22 will focus on enhanced financial support, including fundraising, for collection development; evaluating and updating the ESL collections, and developing a plan to update the digital collection. Goal 5, "Finance" will include fundraising plans and exploring alternatives to Out of Area fees. With the completed renovations to Nelson Memorial Library, Goal 6, "Facilities" met a major benchmark.

2. Employee Handbook Working Group Report. (Trustee Powers) Trustee Powers said the Employee Handbook is about 40% written in the first draft, and is shaping up to be an operational document. The Group hopes to have Section 4, Workplace and Professional Conduct, ready in draft form for the April Manager's meeting on April 13, and to have some content in all sections by then as well. Trustee Powers thanked all staff who have contributed to the effort.

Old Business:

1. JMRL's COVID Response Plan Update: (Library Director, David Plunkett) The Director reported that hours will be expanded at or near the beginning of April. This will happen in two chunks due to differences in staffing at branches. Hours will be as close as possible to original pre-pandemic hours. The goal is not to sacrifice curbside, which is in heavy demand, and not to impact virtual programs, which have been very popular. Greater than 65% of JMRL staff have had both vaccine shots, and greater than 75% have had at least one shot. Quarantining of library materials has been shortened to 24 hours, due to guidelines issued for libraries by the Va. Dept. of Health. The Director shared new Tier 3 statistics.

JMRL has put on 448 virtual programs that have been attended by 9168 people.
Circulation for July 1 through the end of February was 705,385 items.
197,756 of those have been digital, up 44.6% from the same period last year.
28,983 new items have been ordered, cataloged, and processed July 1 through February.
Since the pandemic began, 43,368 people have signed on to use JMRL wifi.
3862 new library cards have been issued since the pandemic began, 3390 virtual and 472 in person.
9040 people have made appointments for Tier 3 in-building service since September

- Central - 1181
- Gordon Avenue - 597
- Northside - 1716
- Crozet - 1948
- Scottsville - 120
- Greene - 1174
- Louisa - 990
- Nelson Memorial - 1314

1069 people have been able to use in-building computer services since September.

The EPC will discuss the length of computer use appointments at an imminent meeting. Curbside services will probably continue after the pandemic but in a much smaller window only at the tail. Staff will not be able to continue curbside services in

addition to full regular services indefinitely. The question of allowing more than 5 patrons in buildings at one time has not been addressed but discussions are expected to be forthcoming. This decision will be tied to metrics like community vaccination rates, building size, etc.

2. Proposed FY22 Budget: (Library Director, David Plunkett). All jurisdictions have now reported and proposed full funding except Charlottesville. Charlottesville's level funding leaves JMRL with a shortfall of 35,000, which would have funded 2% staff raises. The Director hopes to find a way to still include the 2% raise in the FY22 budget.

Library Director's Report: The Director reported that JMRL Same Page event with Jacqueline Woodson attracted 700 live viewings, and was listed in the *New York Times*! Filming with the Lorenzo Dickerson project is going on at Central and the film is expected to be completed in July. Work is also happening on the 3rd floor exhibit on 100 years of JMRL service, in the same time frame. JMRL will be working to address salary compression issues right above where changes occur in the salary structure as JMRL makes state mandated salary increases up to \$15/hr. minimum wage rate. It will likely take more than one year to address compression. Several key staff are leaving in the next few months, including Business Manager, Jerry Carchedi, Scottsville Manager, Megan England, Digital Services Coordinator, Katherine Perdue, and Collections/HR Specialist, Zachary Weisser.

Other Matters: Board President McDuffie asked for input on scheduling in-person Board meetings as early as April. She asked Trustees to email her.

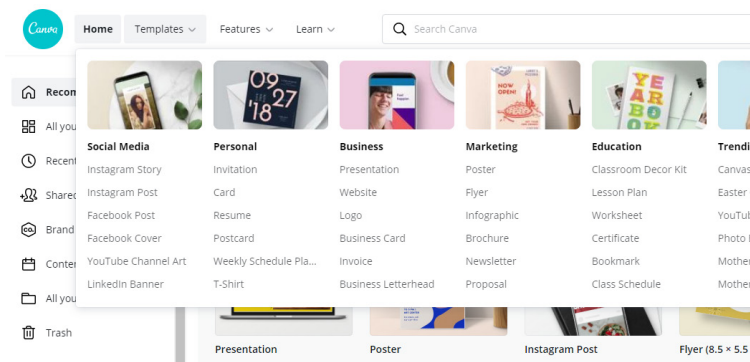
Future Agenda Items: The next Board meeting will be April 26 at 3 pm. Potential items are Policy, Personnel, and Technology Committee reports, and discussion/votes on Policy 5.4, Schedule of Library Closings, and Policy 4.225, Circulation Fines and Fees.

REFERENCE ROUNDUP

Canva

Submitted by Abby Davis, Reference Librarian

Canva is a public librarian's dream tool. We are constantly creating physical objects to be of use to our patrons, like book lists or instructions for crafts. We also use plenty of paper and digital products to market our upcoming programs, as well as our identity statements: our mission, values, rules, and new ideas. We design bookmarks and brochures, flyers and posters, signage and policies, and more. When you're ready for a platform that offers more options than the Office suite or publisher, Canva is a perfect next step. Because Canva has so many templates to choose from, your products will look professional, no matter what tone or vibe you're going for.



This is how the Canva homepage looks when I hover over “templates.” The “Facebook post” template is a great size for both Facebook posts and jpgs to accompany program events on Trumba. The “Flyer” template is a standard 8.5 x 11, perfect for designing a flyer that you can easily print and hang at your library. Templates are great in that they default to the correct size for what you're making, and they also offer literal templates of colors and fonts for dozens of themes, from holidays to seasons to events, and more.

If I select that I want to make an infographic, for example, I can click the template tab and browse through templates. These are, essentially, fully complete infographics, that are also fully customizable. It's as if you're starting with a finished product, but swapping out details so your own information and style shines through. The “search templates” search bar allows you to search for

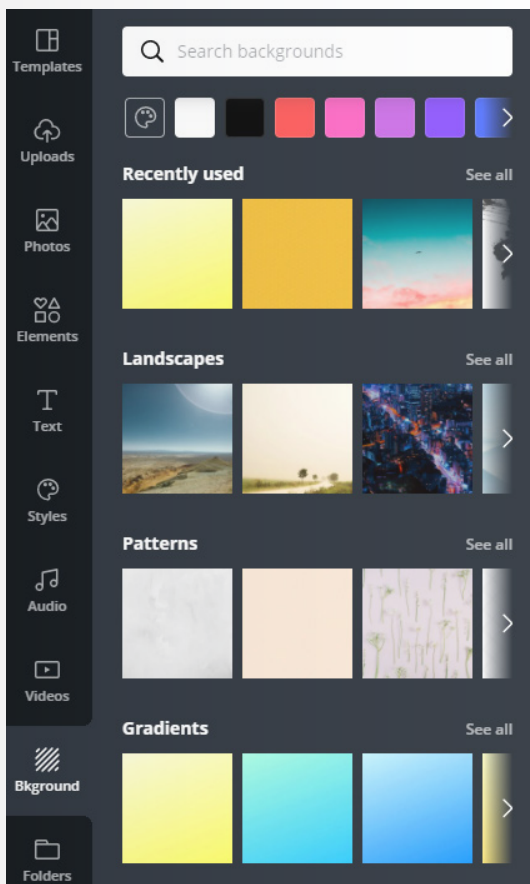
templates within the product you've already selected (in this case, infographic) for starting points that are closest to your own goal.



Below is an example of a Facebook post template, something that popped up when I searched “library.” This could be a fun template for a program flyer for Facebook. It's easy to quickly replace the text with program-relevant information. You can change the font and colors, too.

WE'RE GETTING MARRIED!	
AUTHOR	Charles Smith & Elsie Marrero
TITLE	A Love Story
DATE DUE	BORROWER'S NAME
09/15/12	We first met
02/05/13	Our first date
07/20/19	Charles popped the question, and Elsie said yes!

If you want to design your own item from scratch, you can pick a background color or pattern and add elements to the spread: text, shapes, frames, lines, clip art, or photos. And of course, the JMRL logo! Using Canva is intuitive for those familiar with Office, because the formatting bar looks very similar to editing in Word. Moving items like clip art, shapes, and text around is as simple as dragging and dropping. Spacing lines pop up to help you center and space your items. Changing clip art colors is as simple as clicking a clip art icon and noticing color squares appear in the format bar; simply select the color square and choose a new color(s).



There are two versions of Canva: a free version and Canva Pro. JMRL's Canva account is a Pro account, which allows you to pick and choose from a wider selection of elements and fonts, but the free account is incredibly extensive and useful, if you'd like to create a personal account.

Printing or sharing from Canva is super easy. Once you've finished your design, you can download it in almost any format you want: png, jpg, pdf (standard or high quality print), gif, svg, mp4 video. Have fun designing beautiful, balanced graphics,

presentations, posters, documents, and other visual content!

If you're playing around with Canva but you get stuck, feel free to email me at adavis@jmrl.org. Canva also has a help center -- just click the question mark icon in the upper right corner!

EQUITY CORNER

Hello JMRL! In this month's edition of the Equity Corner, JMRL's Equity Committee would like to spotlight some local organizations that are working hard on equity, diversity, and inclusion issues that affect the whole community. JMRL has partnered with many of these organizations on programming and sharing information, and they all have been wonderful resources.

- JMRL is excited to work with the City of Charlottesville's new [Deputy City Manager for Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion](#).
- [Albemarle County has had a similar office for several years](#), making it the first jurisdiction in Virginia to do so. JMRL has worked very closely with Albemarle's Director of Equity and Inclusion, Siri Russell, as well as the County's Coordinator for Equity and Accountability, Irtefa Binte-Farid. Irtefa has a soft spot for JMRL, as she attended book clubs at GAB as a teen!
- UVA has a very active [Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion](#) that JMRL has worked with in the past, including recently on a successful community reading project for Martin Luther King Day this year. This weekend, the University will be hosting a dedication ceremony for the powerful new [Memorial to Enslaved Laborers](#).
- There are also numerous advocacy and nonprofit groups in the JMRL service area that attempt to address issues of racial disparity (too many to call out here) but take a look at this [extensive list of local non-profits](#) to see what is offered. You can also check out [Reimagine CVA](#) for a broader Central Virginia listing of nonprofits, and the ability to search different categories including identifying organizations that are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) founded and/or led.

IN THE MEDIA

JMRL is always hosting and attending great events... and in the meantime, we are going virtual!

Check out some of the events or programs below featured on local media channels. And, don't forget, if you have an upcoming program or event that could benefit from publicity, email jbraswell@jmrl.org!

Tuesday

Tune in to a discussion with the author [Jacqueline Woodson](#), hosted by the [Virginia Festival of the Book](#) and [Jefferson-Madison Regional Library](#) in Charlottesville, Va. Ms. Woodson, who has written more than two dozen books for children and adults and is a MacArthur fellow, will talk about her recent works with Lisa Woolfork, an associate professor of English at the University of Virginia. This event is free.

Dig deeper into the moment.
Special offer: Subscribe for \$1 a week.

When 7 p.m.

Where vabook.org/events/2021/03/an-evening-with-jacqueline-woodson

Same Page Author Event

[New York Times](#)

Pandemic adds hurdles to equitable internet access

Barriers to reliable internet access have detrimental effects on education, public health and access to information



WiFi access

[Cavalier Daily](#)

RECENT VIDEOS



[Great Library Bake Off](#)



[A Love Supreme virtual event](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA



Required Reading With Tom and Stella @reqreadingcast · Apr 3
Our library is responsible for us having access to a majority of the books we've covered. And then some!

J_MRL @J_MRL · Apr 3
TOMORROW marks the beginning of #NationalLibraryWeek!
What do you love about your library? 📖📚
@ALALibrary #LibrariesTransform @librarycongress



1 1 1



Positive Channels @PositivChannels · Apr 3
I have fond childhood memories of going to this library on Saturdays with my mom and sister. We'd check out so many books! We loved reading then and still do today. 📖📚 #NationalLibraryWeek

J_MRL @J_MRL · Apr 3
TOMORROW marks the beginning of #NationalLibraryWeek!
What do you love about your library? 📖📚
@ALALibrary #LibrariesTransform @librarycongress



1 1 3



Susan Metallo @metallowrites · Mar 20
So this is happening, and I am SO HERE FOR IT! (Except literally I'm super far away, but even though I'm no longer at JMRL, I'm still going to bake along for fun. Because omg "bookish show stopper"?!) @stereopticons23

J_MRL @J_MRL · Mar 19
Coming Monday, March 22... the Great Library Bake Off!
Bakers of ALL skill (or lack of skill) levels are welcome!
For full details, prize info, and to sign up 📖📚📖
jmrlblog.com/2021/03/18/glb...
Watch our GLBO Introduction video (+bloopers):
youtube.com/watch?v=xOZeGn...
[Show this thread](#)

1 1 5



Susan Metallo @metallowrites · Apr 3
Signature Challenge complete! Vanilla Pound Cake with Berry Compote and Sugared Thyme. @J_MRL #jmrlglbo



1 1 2

ANNE MARX • CROZET

Crozet staff surprised Hayley with a COVID-safe baby shower. The picture of the little one on the table is Hayley.



PEGGY KERL • NELSON MEM

Yulita is in her element working on our Memorial Walkway and preparing the garden here at Nelson!



STELLA POOL • MONT AVE

"My camelia bush has just started blooming."



MICHELLE EHRLICH • GREEN CO

"Our dog River has gotten used to being with Matt all day while he works from home. Last weekend while I was at the library, Matt was painting the bonus room which will be his permanent home office. He shut the door so that the pets didn't get into the paint. River expressed his displeasure with the situation by thoroughly chewing a library book. Message received!"

