

Jefferson-Madison Regional Library

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**** APPROVED ****

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 24, 2020 MEETING OF THE LIBRARY'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TRUSTEES PRESENT

President Marcia McDuffie (Nelson)
Carla Mullen (Charlottesville)

Vice President Wendy Wheaton Craig (Louisa)
James West (Greene)

Erica Younglove (Albemarle)
Michael Powers (Albemarle)
Thomas Unsworth (Albemarle)
Lisa Woolfork (Charlottesville)

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Kathy Johnson Harris (Charlottesville)

OTHERS PRESENT

David Plunkett, Library Director
Ginny Reese, Staff Reporter & Greene Manager
Jerry Carchedi, Business Manager

Zach Weisser, Specialist
Krista Farrell, Assistant Library Director
Sarah Hamfelt, Reference and Adult Services Manager

CALL TO ORDER & DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library's (JMRL) Board of Trustees was convened **VIRTUALLY WITH NO TRUSTEES PHYSICALLY CONGREGATED** on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 3:00 PM using videoconferencing software. (A recording of the meeting is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OySB0By8olM&feature=youtu.be>). The minutes for the July 27, 2020 Board Meeting were approved unanimously, Trustee Mullen abstaining.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice President Craig thanked staff for their continued efforts.

TRUSTEE CONTINUING EDUCATION

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. JMRL's COVID-19 Response Plan

Director Plunkett reported that Northside was reporting fewer long wait times, since the addition of expanded drive-up hours. Circulation for the digital collection was up 75% in April and May, and over 50% in June in July compared to 2019. 82 virtual programs were held since July 1 alone, with over 1600 attendees. Some important service needs, such as providing computer broadband for job searches, were not being met. Given that the Board approved the Tier 3 plan at the previous Special Session, he asked that Trustees consider an option to implement Tier 3 on a branch-by-branch basis in discussion with local government partners. Trustee West was hesitant and wished to see what effect the September 8 school opening would have on infection rates in Greene County. Furthermore, the Greene County Library shares the building with other tenants, and currently is using a secondary entrance and exit. Trustee Woolfork agreed that coordinating a move to Tier 3 with school opening dates was important. She is willing to defer and listen to what other districts are saying. Trustee Powers suggested receiving reports from the jurisdictions in between monthly Board meetings. Trustee Mullen supported the appointment services. Trustee Younglove agreed with Trustee Woolfork, commenting that Albemarle County postponed their school openings for nine weeks. Vice President Craig advocated a "wait and see" approach, reporting that friends of hers who are teachers are quite nervous about reopening. Trustee Unsworth thought a plan in conjunction with local jurisdictions made sense, but thought one more yes/no vote in a month would be a good idea after consulting and gathering more information. President McDuffie thought that providing resources to the community in Nelson was important. Director Plunkett said that the jurisdictions were ready to open for Tier 3 at 50% capacity, when Tier 3 had been brought to them, although many staff were uncomfortable with public interaction during a pandemic.

Trustee Mullen moved that JMRL move to Tier 3 of JMRL's Covid Response Plan on a locality by locality basis, at the discretion of the library director, on consultation with each local executive administration. The motion passed with Trustees West, Powers, Mullen, Craig, Unsworth, and McDuffie voting aye, Younglove and Woolfork voting nay, and Harris absent.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

1. Policy Committee Report

Chair Powers presented an edited version of JMRL Policy: Section 1.4 Friends of the Library to the Board, to be voted on at the next regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. FY21 Schedule of Library Closings

Trustee Powers moved to adopt the 2021 Schedule of Library Closings, under proposal (1) adding June 19, 2021 ("Juneteenth") as a paid staff holiday. The motion passed unanimously, President McDuffie abstaining.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Plunkett reported that Gordon branch started unique programming called "Story Walk in the Garden," which exhibits laminated pages of a Juvenile photography book focusing on Charlottesville pictures, attached to poles, in the garden, meant to be explored outside following applicable social distancing regulations. JMRL is solidifying plans with UVA for implementing a local Inter-Library Loan (ILL) service for free to patrons. Tier 4 does not currently offer ILL, but Tier 3 will. Following Trustee Powers's observation that the JMRL "Beta" website had gone live, Director Plunkett agreed that soliciting additional public feedback is a good next step. The Grow Nelson Library (GNL) group has raised half a million dollars.

OTHER MATTERS

Director Plunkett asked for a motion from the Board to accept a grant from the CACF-NMLF (Nelson Memorial Library Fund) for \$100,000 to purchase an outreach vehicle for Nelson Memorial Library. Vice President Craig so moved. The motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future agenda items include: Continuing Education on weeding problematic juvenile materials and a report from Vice President Craig on the Friends of the Library. Possible vote on Policy 1.4, Friends of the Library. Board setting of FY22 priorities. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place on September 28, 2020 with the meeting format and location to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm.

(MM:DP:zw)