

Board of Trustees of Charlotte County Library

Board Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Charlotte County Library met on Wednesday, August 7 at 3:45 in the Bruce Building. Present were Eleanor Williams (Chair), Ree Cathey, Jean Elliott, Barbara Hamlett, Teresa Osborne, and Maggie Allbee (Librarian). Winnie Morris and Martha Brogdon were absent.

The minutes needed one edit, correcting the role Velda Agee played at the library. She was a board member, not just a supporter of the library. Otherwise, the minutes from the prior meeting were approved. The current financial reports were approved.

The board asked if the internet cable being installed all around the county will help the library internet at all. The answer is no. Kinex provides our internet, and this is a different company.

The Keysville Branch is doing fine. They just need some bulb replacements in the chandeliers. An idea to do a Halloween storytime in the evening was proposed. Maggie will see if that is possible. Maggie noted that the front door lock is difficult to use, and she will reach out to the town office for repairs. The basement windows still appear to be boarded up.

The Wylliesburg Branch is still dealing with skunks spraying near the building and the air conditioning seems to not be working well. Teresa will have an HVAC company look at the ductwork and A/C. The board asked Maggie to investigate getting window decals for the library's front windows to draw more attention to the building. Wylliesburg is the last branch that needs to be weeded, so that will be happening gradually over the next couple of months. Maggie asked how people parked for storytime when most of the parking has been reallocated. Teresa said many people parked across the street at the church after dropping the children off at the library.

The Phenix Branch is also doing fine. Maggie confirmed that Jeremy Elder is interested in doing the mural, so we now need to get the town of Phenix to approve whatever design he proposes. But first, Jeremy needs to know what the budget is. The board wondered if the Town of Phenix would be interested in contributing to the mural's cost. There is also the desire to have a sign over the door.

The Main Branch has had no snake sightings for quite some time. The county power washed both Bruce and Hoy recently. Staff are beginning to organize the Genealogy and Local History

room. There will be a wedding in the garden at the end of August. We still need to find someone to seal the floors of Little Bruce. Maggie will ask Jimmy Whirley.

Summer Reading has ended, with 103 participants. The board drew names from a bowl to determine the summer reading winners for each category: Littles, Kids, and Adults. Maggie will work on prize packs for the winners.

Maggie has been busy preparing to speak with the Charlotte County Board of Supervisors about the way funding is handled when the library receives an amount from the state that is higher than anticipated. It seems the county keeps the extra funding, rather than adding it to the library's budget. This violates state law, so Maggie is going to speak at the next Board of Supervisors meeting to inquire about this policy.

Maggie has scheduled Jimmy Whirley to clean the carpets in Hoy and at Keysville over the Labor Day weekend.

Maggie has also been working on planning fall programs (storytimes and book club). She is hoping to have local heroes (police officers, EMTs, firefighters, etc) for some of the storytime readers. She has also been working on getting the new library website closer to being ready, and has made plans to upgrade the catalog so we can see cover images. She will also try to get Francis Gary Powers, Jr. to come and speak in the spring.

Maggie would also like the library or the Friends to have a float in the Christmas parades.

The next board meeting will be on September 4th at 3:45 in the Bruce Building. The meeting was adjourned.