

Board of Trustees of Charlotte County Library

Board Meeting Minutes

May 08, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Charlotte County Library met on Wednesday, May 8th at 3:45 in the Bruce Building. Present were Eleanor Williams (Chair), Ree Cathey, Jean Elliott, Barbara Hamlett, Martha Brogdon, Teresa Osborne, and Maggie Allbee (Librarian). Winnie Morris was absent.

The minutes and financial report from the prior meeting were approved.

The Keysville Branch will be getting a new phone for Bill, since he is hard of hearing. It will have a little screen on it which provides closed captions. There is no cost – Bill's Medicare covers it. Also, the town installed a security camera on the western side of the building. It operates off the wifi in the library. The basement windows are still boarded up and in need of repair after being vandalized. Weeding has begun in earnest at the Keysville Branch.

The Wylliesburg Branch is doing fine, except for the shrinking parking lot. The internet company has built a small building needed for their internet cable system on what was formerly the parking lot for the library, which has reduced the parking at the branch to one or two spots. Weeding will happen there after Keysville is done.

The Phenix Branch is also doing fine. There was a discussion about finding someone to paint a mural on the exterior of the building, as we have thus far been unsuccessful in finding anyone willing to do so. Eleanor brought up an organization called Girls Who Paint, and showed some examples of their work on the exterior of buildings in this region of Virginia. The board liked their work very much. A suggestion was made to also ask Jeremy Elder if he would be interested. Better signage, perhaps a sign over the door or a wrought iron dangle sign, would also be good for Phenix. The Open House event will be happening during Phenix Days in the fall.

The Main Branch has a new display table for books, and the annex at CCH and KSV are coming along, freeing up a lot of shelf space in both libraries. There was a discussion about the floor in Little Bruce. It needs to be polished. Farmville Flooring said they do not provide this service, but perhaps a carpet cleaning service can do it. The carpets at Hoy and Keysville need cleaning. County Maintenance has plans to remedy the peeling paint in the biography room at Hoy. There is still no word on when the painting of the Bruce building roof will happen, although County Maintenance says it is on their list. Little Bruce is filling up quickly with books for the book sale, many of which are coming from Keysville's weeded books.

Maggie talked about giving the books to the four year olds in the county, courtesy of the Friends. The Seed Exchange event was a big hit, and the seed library will begin to be set up in the fall. Maggie is also collaborating on events with the Extension Office, which donated some nice YA books to us. She also shared plans for Summer Reading with the board, and explained how the Friends are helping out with storytimes and crafts. She has also been learning more about how ebooks and audiobooks work. Maggie shared a spreadsheet with the board showing the results of getting quotes from various IT services for the board to peruse. Zack McKinney Technology was the most cost-effective choice.

The annual board retreat will be next month on June 5th. We will be traveling about an hour and a half away, and we will meet in Charlotte Court House at 8:45 am.

The meeting was adjourned.