



## Board of Trustees Meeting 19 April 2022 Minutes

**Trustees Attending:** Andy Simon, Stephanie Thompson, Logan Hill, Jesus Ortega-Valenzuela, Dawn Reagan, Lauren Emert, Susan Williams, Timothy Moore

**Staff Attending:** Manny Leite - BCPL Director, Anjanae Brueland, Anna Gombert, Kathy Thompson, Cynthia Spidler, Kathleen Christy, Brennan Lequire, Chelsea Mathenia

**Visitors:** Bruce Robertson - Friends of the Blount County Public Library; Dick Burgess - Friends of the Blount County Public Library; Liz Schreck - Ocoee River Regional Library, Ashley Depew - The Daily Times

**Call to Order:** Chair Andy Simon called the Blount County Public Library Board to order on 19 April 2022 at 5:30 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** Jesus Ortega-Valenzuela made a motion to approve the 15 March 2022 Meeting minutes. Tim Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Report of Board of Trustees Chair by Andy Simon:**

- Andy reported that in the past month, he and Manny had met with the Maryville College President, the Pellissippi State Librarian, the Foundation, and the Massey Group, which is working on Downtown Maryville.
- Adult Services Coordinator Kathleen Christy gave a presentation to the board about the seed library. Since February 2022, 1,632 packets of seeds have been checked out.

### **Report of Blount County Public Library Director by Manny Leite:**

- The April 2022 Board Meeting Packet, which includes the Library Director's Report and the Financial Report, was distributed by email prior to the board meeting.
- Manny shared that he attended the annual Tennessee Library Association conference the previous week and met other Level 5 library directors in Tennessee.
- Manny noted the highlights from the department updates in his report, including the addition of a Hospitality Services update, which gave information about new catering contracts and meeting room bookings.
- Manny answered questions from the board about RFID and the Commission Budget presentation.

### **Report of Foundation Board, Angela Quick**

- The Foundation for the Blount County Public Library did not meet in March.
- Angela Quick was unable to attend.

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### Report of Friends of the Library, Bruce Robertson

- Bruce Robertson gave an update on the Friends.
  - Diane Rocco also attended TLA to receive her Friend of the Year award.
  - New shelving has been added in the basement to expand the eBay footprint. For the first time, the Friends have made over \$100,000.00 through eBay in the last 12 months.
  - The Friends board is working on their internal budget and board nominees for the upcoming year.
  - The Friends plan to hold their annual meeting on 8 June 2022.
  - The tax ceiling for the Friends is \$300,000.00

### Report of Ocoee River Regional Library, Liz Schreck

- The Ocoee River Regional Library April 2022 Report, and the READS FY 2021-22 Data Statistics were distributed by email prior to the meeting.
- Liz Schreck shared updates from the Regional Library.
  - The Annual Library Service Agreement is being distributed for signatures. These are due back 30 June 2022.

### Old Business

- Manny reported that the Library Services Committee will meet on 21 April 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Learning Lab, the Public Relations Committee will meet on 9 May 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Sharon Lawson Room, and the Finance Committee will meet on 12 May 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Sharon Lawson Room. The marble amphitheater committee is looking for a date in late May.

### Report of the Nominating Committee, Logan Hill

- The Nominating Committee of the board, consisting of Logan Hill, Stephanie Thompson, and Tim Moore, presented the following nominations: Andy Simon for Chair, Stephanie Thompson for Vice Chair, and Anna Gombert for secretary.
- These nominations will be brought to the board for discussion and a vote at the June meeting.
- There will also be one Blount County appointed board position to fill by 1 July 2022.

### New Business

- The board asked for clarification on how funding percentage for each funding body is determined. As of 1 July, the percentages of funding are 10 percent from Alcoa, 30 percent from Maryville, and 60 percent from Blount County.
- An amendment to the Bylaws of the Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees to remove mention of the Regional Library Board to keep in accordance with TCA library law HB0404 was proposed.

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Logan Hill made a motion to accept the proposed amendment to the Bylaws of the Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees. Stephanie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- The board discussed options and considerations for returning to 69.5 hours of operation.
- From January 2019 to April 2022, the number of library staff members changed from 52 to 38. On 1 July 2022 there will be 33 staff members, as maintenance and IT are moving under the county.
- The board suggested that the schedule voted on to return to 69.5 hours not be permanent, but something that is reevaluated in six months to a year or when a certain number of FTEs are reached.
- The discussion was tabled until the May meeting.

**Funding Requests:**

- Manny presented the following Friends requests:
  - There were no Friends Funding Requests for April 2022.
- Manny presented the following Foundation funding requests:
  - There were no Foundation Funding Requests for April 2022.

**Important Dates**

**Other Library Meetings**

Blount County Commission Meeting – 21 April 2022, 7:00 pm – BC Courthouse  
Blount County Friends of the Library – 26 April 2022, 4:00 pm – BCPL  
Foundation for the Blount County Public Library - 13 May 2022, 8:30 am – BCPL  
Maryville City Council - 3 May 2022, 7:00 pm – Maryville Municipal Bldg  
Alcoa Board of Commissioners - 10 May 2022, 7:00 pm – Alcoa Municipal Bldg

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Tim Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next Library Board Meeting will be held on 17 May 2022, at 5:30 pm, in the Dorothy Herron Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Gombert