

# **Allegany County Library Board of Trustees**

Regular Meeting  
October 13, 2020  
4:00 p.m.

## **PRESENT:**

Deb Hendrickson, Tom Finan, Terry Michels, Bill Bingman, Sue Rudd and John Taube.  
Present via Zoom: Stephanie Marchbank

Guests: Present via Zoom: Lisa McKenney, Andrea Everett, Nora Drake, Sherri Uhl, Ellen Torrington, Laura Shelton, Maryland Appel, Kathy Murphy, Sherri Uhl, Kate Metzger, Lisa Mandell, Liz Sell

The meeting was called to order by Terry Michels.

A motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on September 8, 2020 was made by Tom Finan seconded by Bill Bingman and was approved.

A motion to accept both the statistical report and the financial reports of September 2020 was made by Deb Hendrickson seconded by Sue Rudd and was accepted.

## **Presentation: Summer Reading Wrap Up**

Kate Metzger of our Story Corp gave an overview of the successful summer, including:

- highlights of our StoryTimes in the Parks events this summer,
- Update of Summer Reading Prize winners and prizes,
- An introduction into our new Books in Laundromats pilot program, and
- Preliminary locations for cold weather storytimes in the community

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Review of ACLS spending on magazines and newspapers**

As requested at the last meeting, John Taube presented the Board with data showing ACLS spending as a percent of all collections, and ACLS spending compared to other Maryland Public Libraries. Over the last 4 years, spending on magazines has decreased as has magazine usage. The statewide data showed that ACLS spending on magazines was in line with other Maryland public libraries.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **ACLS and the COVID 19 (Coronavirus) State of Emergency**

John Taube and the Board reviewed the plan to move to Phase 4 and reopen libraries on a limited basis to the public on November 9, 2020. After reviewing the plans, Bill Bingman moved to approve the plan to move to Phase 4 on November 9, 2020. Deb Hendrickson seconded the motion and it was approved by the Board.

### **LaVale Library - Renovation and Expansion Update**

John Taube said he was hopeful and expected six (6) firms to submit bids for the construction contract. The bids are due on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 3PM. Bids will be evaluated and hopefully we can award the contract at the next Commissioner's meeting on November 5, 2020. Work will begin as soon as possible.

### **Personnel Committee/Library Staff Mediator - update**

Andrea Everett, Director of Human Resources reports that the staff Personnel Committee is meeting on October 15, 2020 and that she has visited multiple libraries as part of her monthly visits. The next quarterly meeting of the Board Members Personnel Committee is planned for January 2021.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPDATES**

We are waiting for final grant paperwork on our program to loan Chromebooks and WiFi Hotspots at all our libraries.

I have emailed branch reports to all board members as a way to keep up with what is happening at our libraries as determined by the branch staff themselves.

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

Storytime in the Parks will continue as long as the weather holds out.

Story Corp staff have begun recording themselves reading books for broadcasting on the library's social media channels.

The Stamped from the Beginning online book discussions have been very popular and all 3 so far have been well attended. Courtney, Ali and Ashley have done a tremendous job as moderators and discussion leaders.

The Lawyer in the Library event series started this afternoon and continues on the 2nd tuesday of each month in 2020. We are working with the Allegany Law Foundation to provide access to attorneys at no fees to our users.

Last evening we held our first of 2 Back to School Zocials to wish every student, parent and teacher good luck in the new school year. We also highlighted our web resources page for students and parents and how they could make use of library resources as everyone is Learning from Home this year. The 2nd Back to School Zocial is Wednesday at 6:30PM.

Branch staff have begun another new series to discuss new books, and make book recommendations to the public. The bi-weekly event series features library staff talking about books and is called Lets Get Lit!. Videos and podcast versions will be available by late October.

We hope to launch a Social Worker in the Library series of events in the winter modeled on the Lawyer in the Library events.

Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 4PM