

Allegany County Library Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

June 4, 2024

4:00 p.m.

LaVale Library

PRESENT:

Deb Hendrickson, Renee Kniseley, Juli McCoy, Bill Bingman, Sue Rudd, Gary Leasure, Artie Lee Travis and John Taube.

Library Leadership Team: Lisa McKenney, Andrea Everett, Ashley Swinford, Ali Cline, Shea Morse

The meeting was called to order by Renee Kniseley.

A motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on May 14,, 2024 was made by Deb Hendrickson seconded by Artie Lee Travis and was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Six community members signed up to speak. They spoke in favor of maintaining the hours of operation at George's Creek and Westernport Libraries.

One community member spoke via Zoom and also spoke in favor of maintaining the hours of operation at George's Creek and Westernport Libraries.

NEW BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review the June 4, 2024 version of the Proposed FY2025 Operating Budget

John reported that following the May 14, 2024 Board meeting, members of the Leadership Team have solicited additional opinions from library staff and received it from library patrons. We have also reviewed the latest usage statistics in order to propose the FY2025 Operating budget.

At the June 4, 2024 meeting John recommended an operating budget that would have reduced hours at George's Creek and Westernport libraries to balance the budget.

John also stated that selecting GCRL and Westernport for reduced hours was based on actual usage at those locations and the best use of library resources. This proposed budget is a patch for one year, it will give us the time to make more careful considerations of any needed branch closures due to insufficient funding.

John then reviewed the budget with the Board.

The Board discussed the budget and Artie Lee Travis moved to request that John investigate reallocating funds to keep George's Creek and Westernport Libraries open at least 3 days per week or a summer schedule. The motion was seconded by Sue Rudd and approved by the Board.

Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 4PM at the LaVale Library.