

## **Allegany County Library Board of Trustees**

Regular Meeting

September 10, 2024

4:00 p.m.

George's Creek Regional Library

### **PRESENT:**

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

**Library Leadership Team:** Lisa McKenney, Andrea Everett, Ashley Swinford, Shea Morse, Kate Metzger

The meeting was called to order by Renee Kniseley.

A motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on August 13, 2024 was made by Bill Bingman seconded by Artie Lee Travis and was approved.

A motion to accept both the statistical report and the financial reports of August 2024 was made by Sue Rudd seconded by Deb Hendrickson and was accepted.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Expansion of the Fine Free for minors legislation**

Currently, minors under the age of 18 are not charged overdue fees. They are still billed if they lose an item. Maryland law has expanded that provision to include any item "intended for minors" effective October 1, 2024. We anticipate an additional reduction in our fines revenue.

For print materials, we can implement this policy quite easily. We will just set everything with a collection code of Juvenile, Child or Teen to be fine free.

Movies are less straight forward because there are Harry Potter, Disney, and Pixar movies intended for children and families Rated PG and shelved within the Adult Movie collection code. There are also some Hallmark movies rated G and PG within the adult movie collection code.

Of the roughly 12,000 movies in the ACLS collection, we estimate that 1000 are rated "R" or "TV-MA", (TV for Mature Audiences) and are clearly "not Intended for minors". The remaining 11,000 movies are rated G, PG, PG-13. We can estimate that about \$1200 a year are from overdue fines for movies. Using the estimates above, we anticipate a loss of \$1080 in overdue fines for movies "intended for minors." No more than \$130 in overdue fine income comes from rated "R" or "TV-MA" movies.

The Leadership Team recommended that effective October 1, 2024, ACLS stops charging overdue fines for all movies and TV Shows on DVD or Blu-Ray.

- 1) Because the portion we would receive from overdue fines on movies and TV shows NOT intended from children is such a small share of overdue fine income from movies. (no more than \$130 annually)
- 2) If we proceed to charge fines for movies and shows in the “Adult movies” collection code, because the collection code contains Rated R, TV-MA, and PG-13, staff would need to evaluate every movie or show that was returned to check if it was PG-13 and then waive the overdue fine for that item among all the items that were returned.
- 3) Removing fines associated with ALL movies and shows is a value added proposition for the patrons while still allowing us to bill for replacement costs if they are not returned.

Gary Leasure moved that effective October 1, 2024, ACLS stops charging overdue fines for all movies and TV Shows on DVD or Blu-Ray. Bill Bingman seconded the motion and the motion was approved by the Board.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Update on FY26 Advisory Committee**

The FY26 Advisory Committee met on 8/8/2024 to review library usage and on September 5, 2024 to review the financial aspects of the library system.

The committee is made up of community members, representatives of branch Friends groups, Board members, library staff and the Leadership Team.

### **Leadership Team Updates**

- Director of Administrative Services
- Director of Human Resources
- Director of Outreach and Marketing
- Coordinator of Public Services

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPDATES**

### **Tom Finan Plaque Dedication**

We will dedicate Tom’s plaque on Tuesday September 17, 2024 at 7PM at the Washington Street Library. Family and friends are invited.

**LaVale Library Patio Public Art Project**

We are hosting the dedication of the Public Art project at the LaVale library on October 23, 2024 at 6PM in partnership with the Allegany Arts Council.

Using funds from the Moran Foundation gift, we have installed security cameras at the Westernport library.

**Next Board Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 4PM at the Frostburg Library.