



Fayette County Public Library Board Meeting June 18, 2024

Fayette County Public Library

THE FAYETTE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD met on June 18, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Distance Learning Lab (DLL) Room of the Fayette County Public Library, 1821 Heritage Park Way Fayetteville, GA 30214.

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Zulema Green, Chair*
Davina Taylor, Vice-Chair
Kim Bradley
Gail Joiner
Denise Stripling
Page McDonald
Valerie Mallon

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: *Michelle Bennett-Copeland, Fayette County Library Director*
Chris Mallory, Board Secretary and Library Administrative Assistant

GUESTS: *Natalie Marshall, Director, Flint River Regional Library System (FRRLS)*
Lauren Ogletree, Bookkeeper, Flint River Regional Library System (FRRLS)

I.) CALL TO ORDER

Library Board Chair, Zulema Green called the meeting to order at 4 PM.

II.) Approval of Minutes of April 2024 Meeting

Kim Bradley motioned to approve the April 2024 minutes. Davina Taylor seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the minutes for April 2024.

III.) Michelle Bennett-Copeland, Library Director, Fayette County Public Library

- Mrs. Bennett-Copeland discussed the start of the Summer Reading Program 2024. The theme this year is “Adventure Begins at your Library”. The Kickoff started on June 3 with a performance by magician Arthur Atsma. There has been a great turnout so far at all of our summer programs.
- We are in the process of chartering a Toastmasters Club. In order to start a new club, we must have at least 20 members. There are membership fees along with a charter fee.
- The Death Café Series was a well-attended program. The representative, Dr. Lisa Oliver showed important things to consider when planning a funeral. If you ever have to go through this, your family members can follow a procedure so that everyone is aware of what to do. We would like to plan more series in the future.
- The fiscal year will end on June 30th. The budget will be discussed at the next board meeting.
- We are looking into partnering with companies and local organizations to help with library deliveries (similar to uber/door dash etc.) This is something that is in the early planning stages. This could potentially be a SPLOST project to consider in the future.
- Our librarians visit and stay connected with the local schools. Outreach helps with promoting literacy, programs, and resources. We are another avenue that students and their families can utilize in their studies and learning.

IV.) Natalie Marshall, *Director, Flint River Regional Library System (FRRLS)*

- The Flint River Region is in the beginning stages of joining with GPLS on the Palace Project. This is a nationwide project done through a library group called Lyrasis and the goal is to help simplify access to digital resources while also increasing the adoption of electronic resources. You can think of this program as sort of a silo. Instead of having separate apps like Libby, for instance, you can download a single app and have it aggregate all of the available e-content in one place. Having access to all the materials that your library card permits access to in one place is the primary objective of the app. This is a pilot program that the Flint River

Region is participating in. The libraries that are going to take part in this project are Fayette County, Peachtree City, and Griffin. One of the goals of participating in this project is to get access to a wider array of digital resources and hopefully be able to negotiate more favorable terms by dealing with independent publishers. The current cost of a digital book or audiobook is usually 2-3, sometimes even 4 times the cost that you would pay as a consumer. You are also limited either by the number of checkouts or time for checkout.

- The regional board meeting- One more year of funding for hotspots was granted. The Georgia Technology Authority Grant is coming up soon. Part of the grant will help us to displace some of the money that we are currently spending for this very popular program.
- DHS Kiosk- These kiosks are set up in libraries throughout the state. This is a partnership with the Department of Human Services. The kiosks are set up so that patrons can renew their benefits, make an application, or update their information.
- Annual report will be due at the end of September.

V.) Library Representative Report (FRRLS Branches)

- Brooks Library- Kim Bradley -Book Bingo Cards Program for the younger age groups. As they complete the Bingo Card they have a chance to get an Amazon Gift Card.
- Peachtree City Library - Denise Stripling - The elevator renovation is almost complete.
- Tyrone - Gail Joiner - The numbers in every category for programming has increased. The number of programs in 2022 was 169 and in the year 2023 the number of programs is 360. Part of the recent library tech grant was used for a people counter. The Harry Potter Birthday celebration will conclude the Summer Reading program for Tyrone.

Adjournment

- Denise Stripling motioned for the adjournment of the board meeting. Gail Joiner seconded the motion.
- The next Library Board Meeting will be held on October 15, 2024, at 4 PM at the Fayette County Public Library.

ATTEST:

_____ *Chris Mallory*—

Chris Mallory
Board Secretary