

Staunton Public Library
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
November 18, 2021

[Absent a quorum, these are not official minutes, but NOTES for the meeting.]

Call to Order, Attendance, and Presiding Officer's Remarks:

The meeting, at Staunton Public Library, was called to order at 4:35 pm by Mark Peterson.

Roll was called:

Board Members Present – Randolph Bertin, Mark Peterson

Others Present – Library Director Sarah Skrobis, Council Member Steve Claffey

Absent – Cass Cannon, Josh Howard, Virginia Trovato

A quorum was not present.

Approval of Minutes:

Without a quorum present, no motion could be made to approve the minutes of the 21 October Meeting.

Talking Book Center report

Sarah Skrobis offered a brief update on the TBC, highlighting the following items:

- Appeal letter to past donors sent out.
- Software for better donor tracking acquired.

Friends of Staunton Public Library report

Sarah provided an update on the Friends, highlighting the following items:

- Annual meeting held, new slate of officers elected.

Director's Report

Sarah recapped the past month's activities at the library:

- Hired Ali McCue for tech services position.
- Current Public Services Librarian resigned, which position could be filled by Ali (who decided she would take that on).
- Need a technology services librarian (both librarian qualifications and technology).

- Outdoor programming stopped. Most communities are waiting until hitting moderate spread before resuming significant indoor activities.
- Pilot program with library partnering with Virginia Department of Health for at home Covid test distribution (no cost). Goal is to maintain a 2 week supply (70 to 200 kits at a time). Can be picked up (only) via curbside service. Internet service is required to have the test administered. No limit on requests, but recommend one per person per household.

Additional Q&A Regarding Library Operations:

Steve: Are you getting grief about face masks? Sarah: Complaints are starting to pick up. Library staff would prefer masks over community spread.

Old Business

1) Discussion of the opinion from FOIA office about whether we are a public body. YES.
Randolph: How does the technology work? Sarah: we would need to use a projector, broadcasting the in person participants, and connect outside participants to the session.

New Business

1) Challenges to materials are increasing. VLA is monitoring this. We have a policy in place and will follow it. One issue is how to deal with materials that are held in common, especially electronic materials, when they are challenged by affiliated community?

Mark – are there purchasing agreements between libraries? Sarah: No, only have a sharing of materials agreement.

2) FY23 budget cycle – If Board members think of anything, please let me know. We do need to look at competitive salaries. At 25K+ patrons, we require extension services according to state requirements to qualify for funding. Would love to have a book mobile, but that isn't financially feasible compared with other efforts.

Adjournment:

Mark adjourned the meeting, which concluded at 5:10 PM.

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for 16 December at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Randolph Bertin