

Staunton Public Library
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
May 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brenda Mead. Also in attendance were board members Dan Swift, Lisa Brooks, Josh Howard, Christy Davis, Sarah Skrobis, Director, and JoAnn Tigert, Friends of the Library liaison.

The minutes of the March 15, 2018 meeting were corrected and approved as amended.

Brenda Mead opened the meeting with remarks about April's local libraries' joint meeting with the representatives from the Norfolk Public Library. Norfolk's enthusiasm for their work with schools and community involvement was inspirational. Brenda also reported that her recent election to Staunton City Council will likely result in her resignation from this board. She is awaiting advice from attorney Doug Guynn on how to proceed.

Talking Book Report: Dan Swift reported that the Talking Book Center (TBC) budget has been presented to municipalities served by TBC in order to secure funding. The Community Foundation has awarded \$2,000 towards the budget. Area United Way agencies have not yet made commitments. As of July 1, 2018, all area library directors will become ex-officio members of the TBC board.

Friends of the Library: Jo Ann Tigert reported that Chairman Wally Edwards is working to expand membership in the group. The Spring Book Sale brought in approximately \$4,300. Recent support from the Friends of the Library includes helping two library staff members work towards their MLIS degrees, awarding a Teen Advisory Board Scholarship, and working with joint library services. FOL has implemented surveys to members, City Council members, school librarians, and others in the community to assess effectiveness.

Director's Report: Sarah Skrobis reported on her recent attendance of the Public Library Conference in Philadelphia and the Virginia Public Library Director Spring Meeting in Staunton. She learned about the updates from the Library of Virginia and its databases.

Sarah also highlighted several projects and recent initiatives:

- Outstanding public relations project on the radio
- Outstanding Young Adult project, "Read the Rainbow"
- Scholarship

- Yearbook Digitization Project available through a link on the library's website to local high school annuals dating back to the 1800s
- Staunton's Musical Instrument Collection available for check-out
- Recent Facebook post, "If you were transported to the setting of the book you are reading, where would you be?" went viral
- Sarah presented to the Kiwanis and will present to the Tuesday lunch Rotary in June
- Appreciation and best wishes to three VSDB students who are leaving their work study positions and to Betsy Haley who has been Circulation Assistant since 2000

Joint Boards Retreat: What are the next steps for the three local library systems? How can Friends of the Library, the Library Foundation, the Advisory Board and the community work together? How do we quantify the value of the library to the community? We need concrete data and measurable outcomes to do this. Where do we begin this process?

Policy Change on Exhibits : Sarah Skrobis proposed that the policy on exhibits in the library state that "Items remaining at the library for more than 30 days after the end of the designated display period will become property of the Staunton Public Library." The change passed unanimously by the Library Advisory Board.

Meeting Room Use: Discussion about the use of the upstairs meeting room highlighted some issues and their possible solutions. The board determined that the responsibilities of those using the room need to be stated clearly. Those using the room are responsible for cleaning up. Disposal of trash and food items must receive careful attention. Meetings are expected to end approximately fifteen minutes before closing time. Meetings that do not wrap up by closing create additional burden for paid staff who have finished their shifts. There was discussion about including a clause in the usage agreement to impose a charge to help pay staff who must stay late in these instances. No decision was made at this time.

There was no new business. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.
Next meeting will be June 21, 2018 at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy Davis
Secretary