

Staunton Public Library
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
July 18, 2019

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

The minutes of the previous meeting June 20, 2019 meeting were reviewed and were accepted with one minor correction.

Talking Book Center report:

Dan brought the board up to date on the TBC and its recent elections. Catherine Bacik, who works for the Virginia DBVI succeeds Koressa Malcolm as President, but Malcolm will remain on the board. Marian Hackney was reelected as Secretary and Dan Swift as Treasurer. The Vice President post remains vacant at this time.

The emphasis of the TBC will remain on outreach and fundraising as the projected budget still shows the TBC operating at a loss for the 2020 fiscal year, though smaller than the past year.

The TBC is also seeking funding to establish a recording studio which would enable them to produce professional local audiobooks and newsletters and perhaps perform services for others wishing to reach the vision-impaired audience.

Friends of the Library: Jo Ann Tigert noted that the Friends continue to receive donations of used books, so much that they may need to cut off donations in August. They may need to ask the TBC for extra storage room.

A local book dealer pitched the Friends at a recent meeting to take over the book sale program and pay the Friends a commission on the sold books. The Friends rejected the offer as it would reward just one dealer, while several local dealers purchase books at the annual sales.

Director's Report: Sarah had distributed the June and end-of-year circulation and activity reports in advance of this meeting. Brief discussion followed regarding the drop in hard-circulation vs. the rise in digital circulation.

She gave an update regarding the first-floor renovations and a change in staff access using a badge/card reader.

She noted by the meeting date, 768 people had registered for the Summer Reading Program.

She also noted that they were in the process of updating policies re library computer use by cardholders and guests. Conversation continued with a discussion about policies at other libraries. She noted that the current policy hadn't been updated since 2013 and she'd present an updated policy at a future advisory board meeting.

She next led a discussion on the current borrowing policy which was last updated in October 2017. She noted a few minor changes that needed to be updated but note that further discussion was needed about changing the current policy as it related to “loss of privilege” due to patron’s overdue book balances. She said she would present revised language at an upcoming advisory board meeting.

Next meeting will be August 15, 2019 at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Swift
Secretary