

DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021
6:00 p.m.
VIA ZOOM CALL

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sandra Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Present: Mrinmay Biswas, Michael Case, Sandra Chambers, Miguel Jackson, Katie Kaefer, Hank Kinsley, Camilla Meek, Luis Olivieri-Robert, Willis Whichard

Staff: Tammy Baggett, Anita Robinson

Friends Liaison: Joel Lerner

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brittaney Robinson attended the meeting as a representative from LENA. LENA is an educational program that provides technology-based programs and focuses on language development of babies. Ms. Robinson would like to learn more of library initiatives and goals of Durham County Library.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve June minutes: W. Whichard Second: K. Kaefer
Minutes approved unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Chambers is working on updating Bylaws and will share updates with Board of Trustees when draft is available.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee

A motion was made recommending the re-election of current officers: Sandra Chambers, Chair; Hank Kinsley, Vice-Chair; and Anita Robinson, Secretary.

Motion to approve: W. Whichard Second: M. Case

Recommendations of officers' slate passed unanimously.

Communication Report

The communication report was distributed to board members prior to meeting.

Advocacy Report (W. Whichard)

Advocacy Committee has not met. Committee will not plan to meet at this time.

Art Committee (M. Biswas)

Committee has not met. A report was not given at this time.

Board Development & Evaluation Committee (H. Kinsley)

Board Development & Evaluation Committee has not met. The Board was previously asked to forward comments and evaluations to Mr. Kinsley.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Durham County Library Foundation Report (S. Chambers)

A report was not given at this time. The Foundation does not meet during summer months and the next meeting will be held in September.

Friends of the Library (J. Lerner)

The Friends switched their business model and opened their new location in April. They are currently selling books on line as a source of revenue. Revenue has decreased since pandemic. Additional options are being explored for fund raising. The Friends are planning a sale for members only August 27- 29, 2021. Registration is required prior to entrance at the sale. Ten customers will be allowed at one time into the building, masks are required and books will be scanned at check out. The sale is being explored to determine interest from public.

Library Reports (T. Baggett)

Main Library opened to the public on July 20th following a ceremonial event with Commissioners, elected officials, the County Manager, Department Heads and the Library Family. The doors opened to the public at 2pm following the ceremonial event. Nearly 1,000 people visited the library on opening day. Numbers since opening range from 600 – 800 people visiting Main Library each day.

Various library systems have requested tours of Main Library. Charlotte Mecklenburg Public Library and Granville Public Library will receive tours this month.

Main Library continues to be a destination place for customers and the Library Director has had several opportunities to share details of our transformed Main Library. She was recently a guest on In Touch With Durham which will air in September. She was also a guest speaker with the Rougemont Ruritan Club and a guest on WNCU-Radio with North Carolina Central University.

As a library system we continue to place safety as a top priority for customers and staff. We have made progress filling vacant positions and will continue filling positions as soon as possible. We have a good mix of internal and external candidates filling the positions. This has been a unique opportunity for internal staff to have many opportunities for promotions.

The County is adding additional safety precautions and requirements for staff in the next several days. Details of what will be required of all Durham County Government Employees are forthcoming.

Action Items (A. Robinson)

There were no action items at this time.

Next meeting will be held Thursday, September 16, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn: W. Whichard Second: H. Kinsley
The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.