

**BREVARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Pete Poole, District I  
Tom McGill, District II  
Dr. Rochelle Kenyon, District IV – Chair  
Mark Broms, District V

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Wendi Jo Bost, Library Services Director  
Janice Murray, Library Area Director  
Paula Davis, Reference  
Sarah Stretton, Tech Processor  
Madelaine Elam, Youth Services  
Julie Haun, Reference  
Karen DiNatale, Administrative Assistant

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, by the Chair, Dr. Kenyon.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. McGill, seconded by Mr. Poole, to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2022 Board Meeting. *Motion unanimously carried.*

**Correspondence**

None.

**Library Services Director's Report**

Ms. Bost shared all the events and accomplishments that occurred since the last Board Meeting in September 2022.

We received an award from CareerSource Brevard for being the #1 community partner on the Crosswalk Platform. This Platform allows us to refer patrons that are job seekers directly to CareerSource Brevard.

We also have been nominated for Stars of the Space Coast Award with Brevard 211 for our work with Help Me Grow and their Door Dash Grant.

We are busy planning for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for Brevard County Libraries to be held December 1, 2022 from 3 to 5 pm. A big shout out to Michael Boonstra who has been the engine behind the event.

Library Con was a huge success with over 1000 in attendance. Thanks to Heather Palmer and her team for coordinating the event. We appreciated Mr. Broms and Dr. Kenyon for attending.

Our 2022-2023 budget has passed. A Community Support Advocate position was added to our staff and we are in the final stages of interviewing for a permanent position.

We had two hurricanes and we did sustain some damage - mostly leaks and roof concerns. During the hurricanes I worked at the Emergency Operations Center and some of our staff worked at shelters.

Franklin DeGroodt Library just submitted an innovation grant for small business development through NEFLIN. They have quite a few patrons who are interested in entrepreneurship.

We are working on updating our Circulation manual.

We are finalizing our statistical reports for the State Aid Grant.

There is a program called United Through Reading which connects military families who are separated for deployment or military assignment by providing the bonding experience of shared storytime. It is something we are looking into.

We have met with Facilities to review the capital Improvement projects for this year. One of the projects is the carpeting in the youth area at Central Library.

We have been experiencing some staffing turnover, but have also made some recent hires. We are very excited about the staff we have and many are being promoted.

Our Mobile Library has had many unique events like Story Walks and Scooby Doo Escape Room which have been successful and highly attended.

Code Craft Works continues to work with our children and they did really well in the first challenge; they finished in the top 3 in the country.

We met with environmentalist at Satellite Beach Library as they had concerns regarding Gopher Tortoises on the property.

Mr. Broms asked if the regional Library Advisory Boards have started. Ms. Bost answered the two Boards have met. The South/Central Library Advisory had enough for a quorum, but the North Brevard Advisory Board did not. They had some ideas that we are looking into such as passes for attractions as they did with the National Parks this past summer. Both boards have scheduled meetings for January 2023.

### **Personal Appearances**

Dr. Kenyon: Went to LibraryCon and was so impressed with all the families that were there and thanked all the staff that worked on this event. Mr. Broms commented that it is worth noting that the facility LibraryCon was held at was a shelter just two days prior. It is just remarkable how they transformed the facility to such a successful event. Dr. Kenyon mentioned what's

amazing is staff did all of that on top of the normal library duties. Ms. Bost stated that LibraryCon has grown so much in popularity that it will need more than one library to plan this event in the future.

Mr. Poole said in the past three months he visited North Brevard Libraries. He noted how helpful and courteous the staff was.

### **Unfinished Business**

Mr. Broms asked how our Policies and Procedures are going to be handled moving forward. Ms. Bost replied that there is only one that will need to be addressed. Next year the Code of Conduct policy will be addressed and also a trespass appeal process.

### **New Business**

Election of Officers: Mr. Poole made a motion that current officers retain their office. Mr. McGill seconded. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Janice Murray gave a report on Merritt Island Library. Ms. Murray wanted to honor the past and gave a brief timeline. Merritt Island Library began as a trailer in a parking lot in 1965. With the help of a federal grant, the current library was built in 1969. Merritt Island Library incorporated into the County library system in 1972. In 2010 renovation, including window view reading area, lobby redesign, and young adult area and ten additional computers were added. Our programs make us unique. We offer STEAM, Brick Builder (Lego), Read to the Dog is back, we offer summer performances, we have the mobile library visit, Art in Public Places, technology, and the Sharing Tree to name a few. The most important part of the library is our staff.

Ms. Bost stated the theme for the Summer Reading Program this year is All Together Now.

Mr. Broms wondered how our children are doing after a rough couple of years. Ms. Elam, Youth Services, responded that they are coming back to the library and also parents have been coming in to check out books for their children. A discussion followed regarding family library cards.

### **2023 Library Advisory Board Schedule:**

Mr. McGill made the motion and Mr. Poole seconded for the following schedule:

Thursday, February 16, 2023 a 10 a.m., Suntree/Viera Public Library

Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 10 a.m., TBD

Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 10 a.m., TBD

Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., TBD

***Motion unanimously carried.***

### **Comments by Public/Friends**

Ms. Bost reminded everyone that on December 1, 2022 we will be having our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library from 3:00 – 5:00 pm

### **Comments by County Library Board Members**

Mr. Broms stated Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director of the American Library Association, received the 2022 Literarian Award for Outstanding Service to the American Literacy Community from the National Book Foundation. Her acceptance speech was amazing and worth listening to. Ms. Bost stated she would find the link and send to the Board members.

Mr. McGill asked if we have audible books at the library. Ms. Bost responded yes. We have the Talking Books Library, Hoopla and Overdrive with Libby. Ms. Bost will work with Mr. McGill on getting information on Talking Books.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Broms', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Broms, Secretary

Approved by the Library Advisory Board on February 16, 2023.