

**JEFFERSON PARISH LIBRARY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

East Bank Regional Library – Administration Conference Room
4747 W. Napoleon Ave., Metairie, LA 70001

**October 18, 2022
MINUTES**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Conescu, Patricia Cox, Becky Knight, Judy Mills, James Simmons, and Margaret Thompson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Charles Gaudin

LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT: Irene Lunkin, Melissa Muhoberac, and Antoinette Scott

OTHER PARISH STAFF: Megan Grantham, Parish Attorney for Library

GUEST: Chris Smith, Library Adult Programming Manager

Margaret called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Conescu/Knight made a motion to dispense with the reading of the September minutes and accept them as written. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

- Chris reported the library will resume using the other half of the meeting room starting December 5. Genealogy classes will start again in January, he is struggling to find someone to present the classes on the westbank. He is currently arranging a birthday party for patrons over 100 years old with JenCare as one of the participants. Chris has been working with Erin Korosi, Youth Services Coordinator, on putting together camps for individuals up to age 18. Ideas for the camps include NASA, Culinary, and American Sign Language camps. He is selectively writing grants to secure funds. The Jigsaw Puzzle extravaganza was a big event with 16 couples participating. The next jigsaw event is scheduled for March 11, 2023. We will try to do a yarn remnant project next year too.
- We have been hosting events under the Digital Inclusion Program that started this September. Earlier this month, Ricardo set up a booth at the Hispanic Heritage Festival where he advertised our Spanish-speaking computer classes. Last week he did the same at the Qué Pasa Fest. We will advertise library services for our Hispanic community and the Spanish-speaking computer classes in the Qué Pasa magazine.
- On October 22, the Library will participate in Trunk or Treat in Lafreniere Park. Erin, our Youth Services Coordinator and other library staff will host a trunk next to the Parish President. They will have Hocus Pocus decorations to coordinate with the Library’s “Batty about Books” theme. Staff will be dressed in costumes distributing bookmarks, candy, coloring sheets, crayons and stickers.

- Renovation and construction updates include the following. The architect is working on a new set of plans that will include suggestions from the staff for the WBR addition/renovation project. We are meeting with an Assistant Parish Attorney at the Westwego library to review and discuss the roof that was installed improperly and the party responsible for the repairs. Changes have been made to the specifications for the Avondale construction project and will go back out for bid. The warranty company has agreed to repair the roof at Terrytown library; the project will start November 18. The old carpet at Grand Isle library was removed and new carpet will be installed when it arrives; sheetrock was replaced in the library too. The elevator repair and roof coating project will be put out for bids. To continue library services in Grand Isle, our staff are working out of the Multiplex Center.

OLD BUSINESS:

Melissa will provide Judy with a copy of the Library's Collection Development policy as requested by Judy. The Convention of States group has not signed the affidavit sent to them and has not contacted the Library.

Patricia reported the Friend's book sale went well. Over \$60,000 was collected before expenses.

Melissa reported she and Public Services supervisors have been doing marathon interviews. There were over 30 applicants and we are about half way through; some were hired. We want to get the new staff started before the holidays.

NEW BUSINESS:

Judy reported she received a call about moving the archives from the EBR Library to the 3rd floor of the old Gretna City Hall building on Huey P. Long Ave. She is not opposed to the idea, but is concerned because she was once informed that building would be costly to renovate and wanted to speak with Councilmen Templet and Edwards about their thoughts on the archives being moved into that building. She and members of the Historical Commission met with with Terry Talamo, Chief of Staff for Councilman Edwards, and he in turn suggested they meet with the mayor and Councilman Edwards to see if it is advisable to use the building for archives and a museum. Judy will invite members of the Library Board to the meeting. Melissa assured her the idea was a suggestion.

Margaret stated now that we are in the automated age and having virtual meetings, a change should be made to the bylaws to reflect if this is a possibility or an acceptable way to attend a board meeting. She feels boundaries should be in place to ensure attending virtually is not misused or overused and that members should meet in person to be a cohesive body. Lisa and Becky does not agree the bylaws should be changed to reflect boundaries for members wishing to participate virtually; however the bylaws should reflect the time change. Judy suggested a committee be selected to come up with the language for reflecting boundaries and other sections of the bylaws that should be changed. James, Becky, and Lisa agreed to serve on the committee. Megan stated she will come up with multiple options to present to the board for review and discussion. Lisa inquired about what other boards are doing and if members participate in the meetings virtually. It's a great advantage to have the virtual option as you can always have a quorum. James stated any changes should also be in line with the Parish Charter. This subject will be tabled for discussion at a later board meeting.

The next meeting is November 15, 2022 at 1:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.