

CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Minutes of May 8, 2018

The Catawba County Library Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 12 Noon, in the Conference Room of the Main Library in Newton.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brenda Sigmon, Susan Hunsucker, Kevin Moretz, Nicky Setzer, Amanda Edwards and Suzanne White, Library Director.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Carol Preston, Sylvia Ray

CALL TO ORDER

Brenda Sigmon, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public attended.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Grant Award

The Catawba County Library was selected to participate in an ALA Inclusive Internship Initiative for the summer. The Library will hire a diversity intern to be mentored by a library staff member. Touger Vang, Librarian at the Southwest Library, will work with the intern to develop a connected learning project and will establish a work schedule necessary to complete the project.

The Library in the Community

In an effort to connect with the community to develop library services and programs that align with community goals, and to highlight the library's impact in the community, Suzanne and several staff members participate in community organizations and boards. Suzanne currently serves on the Newton Business Advisory Committee, the Newton Public Art Commission, the Partnership for Children Board of Directors, LiveWell Catawba, and with the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Discussion Group. Library team members participate with community groups including the Catawba County History Museum, Ready Schools Taskforce, the Catawba County Youth Council, and United Way, among others.

The Library and the Newton Public Art Commission have partnered to install a sculpture on the front lawn of the library. The library has additionally initiated the *Arts @ the Library* program in alignment with county Arts and Culture goals. The Library will feature rotating art exhibits and arts workshops in addition to introducing an *Art-o-Mat* vending unit to make arts more accessible to the community and to enhance visibility of local artists.

The Library is receiving the Community Partnership Award from the Catawba Valley Community College and Suzanne will attend CVCC's commencement ceremony on Friday, May 11, 2018 to receive the award.

The Library is partnering with the CC Museum of History's Traveling Smithsonian Exhibit highlighting "The Way We Worked" and connecting to work history in Catawba County.

The Library is working with local schools to get digital library card for students, with plans to broaden the initiative school-system wide.

The Library will be presenting at Connect Catawba Resource Forum on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 to provide information about library services and programs in an effort to help people in the community that are living in poverty.

Programming Update

The Library had excellent participation in both the Just Mercy and the Blue community read programs. Last month, there were 1000 4th grade students here at the Newton Library participating in the Blue program. The Hmong NEH Digitization Project is ongoing and the Library was fortunate to have students from UNC Greensboro here working on the Hmong Heritage Project. The last collection date will be at True Life Church, and then the team will work to have items digitized and shared through the NC Digital Heritage website. Additionally, the Library is getting ready for Summer Learning to keep kids and adults reading and learning all summer long. The theme for this year's summer learning is "Libraries Rock", and there will be programming and fun for all ages.

Budget/Facilities Update

The budget request for FY 2019 has been submitted and is now being finalized by the budget office and the County Manager, and includes the match for the Pop Up Library. The Pop Up Library vehicle has been ordered and is currently being built by Matthews Specialty Vehicles in Greensboro, NC. We are soliciting staff input to develop a name for the Pop Up vehicle. We hope to have a few renovations completed in the auditorium at the Newton Library in the near future, and carpeting for the Southwest Branch Library.

Advocacy

Thanks to all board and community members who were able to attend the city meetings at Newton, Conover and Claremont. Suzanne will be presenting the library's 2019 budget to the County Commissioners on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 8:30 am and would value any board members' attendance. We also are requesting that library board members contact NC legislators, Andy Wells and Mitchell Setzer, to advocate for the NC Kids Digital Library. Additional advocacy is needed on the federal level as well to continue federal LSTA funding.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Next Regular Scheduled Library Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 14, 2018, Newton Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Tyler Garrison