

NORTH BREVARD PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2024

Members Present

Constantine Daniel, District 1 - Chair
Michelle Canha, District 2
Pete Poole, District 1
Nancy Praver, Titusville
Ashley Scott, Port St. John
Patsy Shearer, Cocoa
Loretta Wilson, District 2
Maxine Zieman, District
Suzanne Noel-Copeland

Others Present

Wendi Jo Bost, Library Services Director
Shelley Macon, Port St. John Library Director
Phyllis Stover, Administrative Secretary
Terry Mazeika, Friends of the Port St. John Library President

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Constantine Daniel.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Suzanne Noel-Copeland to approve the minutes for the August 8, 2024 meeting, seconded by Pete Poole. The motion unanimously carried to approve the minutes as written.

Correspondence

None.

Library Services Director's Report

Ms. Bost and Ms. Macon walked around the property before the meeting to assess the landscaping needs at Port St. John Library.

Satellite Beach library was closed for approximately three weeks for installation of carpet and to rearrange the entire collection and the shelving. The library now looks more open and inviting.

Two arrangements have been made with the city of Satellite Beach. One is for the city to clean out the drainage ditch behind the library; the other is to allow city personnel on library property to collect data on wildlife, such as, the gopher tortoise.

There were twenty-seven library staff members, including Ms. Bost, who worked hurricane shelter duty. Staff did a great job of interacting with the public, reassuring them, and meeting their needs.

BCL Go launched on September 17, 2024. In the first three weeks, 2,457 items were downloaded. The overall feedback is that staff and the public love it.

The River House is a major renovation project to make the building a comfortable place to have programs which serve the community. A grant called *Making a House a Home* is being written for additional funding. A soft opening is projected for after Thanksgiving.

There will be some foam and some snow parties during winter break.

“Read Your Way to K” is a new program to engage and encourage young readers.

The theme for the 2025 Summer Reading Program is *Color Our World*.

We received a grant this summer from the Florida Humanities Council for our Young Storytellers Project. Seventy kids met with writers to learn about the writing process. Then they each wrote a story which was compiled into a book that was published and given to each storyteller and added to the collection of each library. Mary Beaumont was the brainchild behind the extraordinarily successful project.

Ukuleles are available for checkout. Memory kits are also being checked out. The Directors will meet with the American Heart Association to learn how to use blood pressure cuffs which will also be available for checkout. We are starting to develop a library of things.

Griselda Clark, Assistant Director of Library Services, is a co-chair for the United Way fundraiser. The goal is to raise \$75,000.

FEMA assistance started at Titusville, Melbourne and DeGroodt libraries. Titusville library is also a voting precinct which has made it an extremely busy place. Conversation ensued about signs blocking views and lack of parking space.

Codecraft Works, who does cybersecurity for kids at the Catherine Schweinsberg-Rood Library, is starting a Codecraft Institute online school engaging teen-adults in learning and finding employment. Students will be required to visit a library and obtain a library card. LinkedIn learning will help out of state students participate also.

There are many Halloween activities planned. The library administrative offices are decorated for the kids from Story Time to come up and visit.

Ms. Bost did two radio spots on WFIT, one about LinkedIn Learning regarding services at the library and the other about our new App.

We have been attending the job fairs at the County building.

We are in the process of partnering with HUG Health Group United HIV and Hepatitis C treatment and prevention program to offer services at the Catherine Schweinsberg-Rood Library and the Eau Gallie Library. A traveling van offers a new medically assisted drug program for evaluation and treatment; a following van can offer transportation for immediate drug intervention if needed.

Morgan Roth is the new Library Operations Specialist who will work in Marketing and Lean Six Sigma.

Renovations at some libraries include: new bathrooms at Cape Canaveral and Titusville, new flooring and bathrooms at Central. We hope to redo the tile at the entrance of Titusville and we are looking into redoing the landscaping around the Titusville parking lot.

Book cart drill teams are being brought back and will march in two parades.

A Memorandum of Understanding has gone out to the library Friends groups.

Ms. Bost went over the budget insert and explained several items.

Personal Appearances

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Comments by Public

None

Comments by Board Members

Ms. Praver asked about job openings and turnover of library staff, and about landscaping needs and suggestions.

Mr. Poole asked about hurricane damage to libraries. There was minimal damage. He asked about drones. Ms. Macon is looking into getting a drone program at the Port St. John Library. Drones will be at Library Con on February 23, 2025 at the Melbourne Auditorium.

Announcements

The next meeting of the North Brevard Library Advisory Board is January 23, 2025 at the Port St. John Library.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Recorded by Phyllis Stover

Approved 1/23/2025