

BREVARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 21, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Constantine Daniel, District I
Don Lusk, District II
Winifred Paauw, District III
Dr. Rochelle Kenyon, District IV - Absent
Mark Broms, District V – Chair

OTHERS PRESENT

Wendi Jo Bost, Library Services Director
Kat Fuhrig, South Mainland Library Director
Brenda Brinson, South Mainland Friends of the Library
Karen DiNatale, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 am by Acting Chair, Mr. Broms. Introductions were made and Mr. Daniel was welcomed as a new member of the Board representing District I.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lusk, seconded by Ms. Paauw to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2024 Board Meeting. *Motion unanimously carried.*

Correspondence

None

Library Services Director's Report

Ms. Bost gave highlights of what has been happening at libraries these past several months.

Satellite Beach Library was closed for approximately 3 weeks for new carpeting and rearranging the space. The branch is much more open and accessible.

During Hurricane Milton we had 27 library staff working shelter duty. Ms. Bost worked at the EOC during the night shift.

Our new App launched on September 17, 2024. The BCL Go App is available on Google Play and also through Apple App Store. 2,457 patrons have downloaded the App as of mid-October. We have had a lot of positive feedback about the App.

We have been working with CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia and Brevard County Facilities on renovating River House. We are creating that house into a home. We have hired a new employee to help with the programming that we will be having at River House. We are looking at having programs for seniors in the morning and programming for children in the afternoon. Working to find a date for an open house in December.

This Winter Break we will be hosting Foam/Snow parties at six locations. The locations are Titusville, Central, Dr. Martin Luther King, Suntree/Viera, Satellite Beach, and Palm Bay Libraries.

We have a new program "Read your way to K". It encourages children to start reading as they begin the journey towards kindergarten. We are receiving positive feedback.

We received a grant from the Florida Humanities Council for our Young Storytellers Project over this past summer. We offered online classes on Teams. They learned about character and plot development. We published a book of their work and we are looking at having a program about writing at Library Con.

We have Library of Things available for checkout which include Ukuleles, Blood Pressure Kits, and Memory Kits. Ms. Fuhrig mentioned we added three new categories of Memory Kits and they are Around the House, Patriotic and Libraries.

FEMA assistance was offered after Hurricane Milton at Titusville, Melbourne and Franklin DeGroot Library. There were individuals from FEMA, the State, and also House of Hope. This assistance at the libraries lasted approximately two weeks.

The Library is going to participate in two parades. The Mobile Library will be at the Merritt Island parade on 12/7/24 and on 12/14/24 the Rockledge parade. At the Rockledge parade we will also be having our book cart drill team performing.

We have had two radio spots on WFIT promoting the library. One was about LinkedIn Learning and the other was about BCL Go.

We have a partnership with HUG Health Group. They are designed to do Hepatitis and HIV testing. They come in a mobile van and they find hot spots where they need to be. They will be coming to Cocoa and Titusville Library. We are also working to get the final approval with Circles of Care. They have a MAT (Medical Assisted Treatment) mobile vehicle for drug evaluation.

We hired Morgan Roth as our new Library Operations Specialist. She comes to us with strong public relations, graphic arts and Lean Six experience. There will be a more social media presence. One of her first tasks was getting the word out there that the libraries will be increasing their hours starting in January.

We are getting new bathrooms at Cape Canaveral, Franklin DeGroot, and Titusville Library this year.

Next year we hope to redo the tile at the entrance of Titusville Library and then we will have completed all flooring except for Central Library.

Personal Appearances

Mr. Daniel visited Titusville Library for Early Voting. He said the parking was terrible as there were no places to park. Mr. Daniel visited Central Library for the Trick or Treating event and was able to visit with Ms. Bost. Mr. Daniel also visited Poinciana Library.

Ms. Paauw has been busy with South Mainland and also was able to visit West Melbourne. Enjoyed the Children's section at the West Melbourne library.

Mr. Brom visited West Melbourne's Trunk or Treat. There wasn't any parking available. Had to park across the street where there were no cross marks; but there were so many families there it was amazing to see it was well attended.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Election of Officers for 2024-2025.

Mr. Lusk made the motion for Mr. Broms to assume the Chair position for 2024-2025 and Mr. Daniels seconded. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Mr. Daniel made the motion for Mr. Lusk to assume the Vice Chair position for 2024-2025 Ms. Paauw seconded. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Mr. Broms made the motion for Dr. Kenyon to assume the Secretary position for 2024-2025 and Ms. Paauw seconded. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Proposed meeting schedule for 2025. Meetings will begin at 9:30 am on February 20, 2025 at River House, May 15, 2025 at Mims Public Library, and August 21, 2025 at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Mr. Lusk made the motion to approve the meeting schedule for 2024-2025 and Mr. Constantine seconded. ***Motion unanimously carried.***

Ms. Bost asked if there was anything else they would like to add to the Agenda format. Mr. Broms would like to add a section for the Director of the Library to give a small presentation on how their library is doing. Mr. Lusk agreed. Ms. Bost will look into adding that to the Agenda format.

Mr. Broms asked if Ms. Fuhrig if she could give a report on South Mainland. Ms. Fuhrig stated there have been a lot of changes since she started three years ago. We have had a lot of plumbing issues which have been fixed, the interior of the library has been painted, we moved Collections around, the kid's room is being modified, AC is being repaired, and the grounds are being updated giving us good curb appeal. The whole area around the library is growing and we're preparing to accommodate the extra patrons we are anticipating with the growth of the area. Mr. Lusk asked if there is anything else that she would like to mention. Ms. Fuhrig stated she would like to create a larger maker-space for all ages.

Comments by Public/Friends

Mr. Broms asked Ms. Brinson how the South Mainland Friends Group is doing. Ms. Brinson stated they are doing raffles and book sales to raise funds. They get donations from Wal-Mart which involved a lot of paperwork to get in their program. Right now, we have four volunteers and are looking for more.

Comments by County Library Board Members

Mr. Lusk inquired about the youth drone initiative. Ms. Bost stated we were awarded a grant last year which gave us different styles of drones. One set of drones you can free-fly or you can code to fly. The other set is first person view. You fly the drone by wearing goggles. It allows you to pilot and see what the drone is seeing. We had a recent training for youth and at the last session they were able to pilot the drones. Right now, we're sharing the drones between libraries.

Mr. Broms stated our next meeting will be on February 20, 2024 at River House. Ms. Paauw made motion to adjourn and Mr. Daniels seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.



Mark Broms, Acting Chair

Approved by the Library Advisory Board on **February 20, 2025**.