

James L. Hamner Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 21, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 by vice-president Karen Freas. Members present were Tom Hayghe, Virginia Whitaker, Carol Hix, Karen Freas, Ruth Ashton, Kat Spears, and Gail Geraghty.

Minutes - Karen asked for approval of the minutes from our last meeting. Ruth moved to accept the minutes as they were, seconded by Carol.

Public Comments - none

Friends of the Library - No Friends member was present, but Kat shared that they are meeting tonight to finalize plans to invest the money from the endowment. They are funding the Summer Reading Program, up to \$5,000, as well as providing up to \$9,000 for programming for the remainder of the year.

Officers' Reports - none

Committee Reports -

Board Development Committee - Kat said that this new committee, consisting of Virginia, Ruth, and herself, met recently to discuss future goals for the library board. These goals include establishing an orientation process for new trustees, including a welcome packet, and assigning a "board buddy." The committee also talked about creating a list of board expectations, and hopes for diversifying the board to better represent the county's demographics. More discussion will be held at their next meeting in June.

Karen asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Joy Worsham to the board. Carol moved, and Tom seconded. Motion carried.

Kat brought up Callie Walker as another prospective qualified candidate for the board, and Ruth and Carol supported the idea. Karen asked for a motion to ask Callie to consider joining the board. Ruth moved and Carol seconded. Motion carried. Ruth said she will speak to Callie soon.

Library Director's Report - Kat said that they have begun breaking ground on the new playground. Next week the big pieces of equipment will arrive and be installed. The library will eventually also be getting a pavilion. The wood and roofing have been donated, but the library will need to provide the ceiling. Some community members have spoken about making donations, so perhaps all expenses will be covered. It should all happen within the next six weeks. A grand opening will be held in late summer.

The Summer Reading Program has kicked off. The goal is to double the number of participants from last year. Kids and adult programs are being held.

Baylee Hughes is arranging a master falconer to come for an outdoor program this fall. Also, a public shredding event will take place in September.

Old Business - none

New Business - Kat said that she is hoping to hold another professional development day for the board in August. A colleague of hers will come to present a session on how to use census data from Amelia County to better understand and serve the community. Some people from county administration will also be invited to attend. After some discussion, August 26th was decided as the tentative date. More information will follow.

Karen asked for any other new business. None was given. Carol moved to adjourn the meeting and Tom seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52

The next meeting will be held on July 16th at 6:00 pm.