

**FLAGLER COUNTY PUBLIC  
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 13, 2023**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Ulsamer at 4:30 p.m.

**Attendees:** Library Director, Holly Albanese, Assistant Library Director, Joe Saloom and Trustees Jim Ulsamer (Chairman), Jan Cullinane, Bernie Barczak, Jeanne Nix, and Sharon Attack attended. Commissioner Donald O'Brien and Friends of the Library President, Carl Laundrie, also attended.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the January 9, 2023, Board Meeting were approved as presented.

**Public Comment:** None

**Friends of the Library Report:** Carl Laundrie reported January book sales raised \$1,000. Plans for the upcoming year include a Book Fair on Feb. 29; Volunteer Staff Luncheon at Olive Garden on April 16(library Board members also invited) and an event at Palm Coast Community Center on Oct. 27.

**Monthly Director's Report:**

- The Director distributed Monthly Statistics for December 2022 and January 2023, which were reviewed. The Director reported continued strong Passport revenue for January, 2023 of \$19,000.
- Also noted was increasing costs of Hoopla as the fee is based upon usage and not a flat fee program such as NEFLIN/LIBBY eBooks.

**Book Censorship Discussion:** Board discussed recent concerns regarding book censorship challenges. Jan Cullinane presented several articles raising awareness of possible future challenges to books at the library. Jim Ulsamer and Holly Albanese noted that there has been interest indicated by NBC News in Flagler Public Library programs on "Banned Books". Participation in such a program by anyone under 16 would require parental consent and/or attendance.

**School District Review Committee:** The Director also noted that the Flagler School Board had recently adopted a policy regarding the make up of its Book Review Committee. While it indicated that a Trustee of the Library Board be part of the Committee there is no obligation on our part to participate.

**Southern Library Update:** The Director reported the building design at 30% completion and that a meeting on Feb. 21 will update the expected cost of construction. To date the new library size has been reduced to roughly 23,000 square feet from the original plan of 32,000 square feet.

**Upcoming Programs:** Director Holly Albanese described upcoming programs for Feb., March and April-

- Black History Month Movie Matinees Feb. 11 and 20
- Adult Trivia Feb 18.
- Flagler Reads Together programs Mar.4,22 and 24
- Words Worth Speaking Open Mic Poetry Reading Mar. 4
- Internet Safety Class Mar. 8
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Flagler County Public Library Bookfest Apr. 29
- Free Yoga Beginners Classes held monthly Feb though July
- Computer Classes January through June
- Food For Thought Free Library/Pantry kiosks at two community centers in Bunnell

**Staff Updates:** The Director reported the Youth Services vacancy had been filled.

**Budget Update:** The Director reported meeting with the County Administrator. Cuts were requested to be considered in the annual budget. As a result Library hours of operation have been reduced to accommodate the request.

**Other:** The Director reported the Library was awarded an Innovation Grant of \$6,690 to be used to purchase “Pillar” sound proof study booths.

**The Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. by Chairman Jim Ulsamer. The next Trustee meeting will be Monday, March 13th at 4:30PM.**

Submitted By: Bernard Barczak, Trustee