



Cleveland County Friends of the Library Board Minutes February 1st, 2022

Present for our February 1 st 2022 Board Meeting, via Zoom were: Emily Yelton, Betty Blanton, Andy Brown, Roger Harris, John Button, Sherra Miller, Richard Hooker, Wright Adams, Miriam Ash Jones, Cindi Dashnaw, Jann Ford, and Kay Harvell,

Jann called the meeting to order and welcomed our new member, Andy Brown, to his first meeting. Andy is newly retired from the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections. Welcome Andy!

The Minutes for January were approved. Roger Harris submitted the Treasurer's report showing an Ending Balance of \$15,616.16 with income from donations and memberships totaling \$45.00 and Total Expenses, of \$680.35. \$ 420.00 for 12 months of our climate- controlled storage unit and \$260.35 for Newsletter mailing. The treasure's report was approved.

Much appreciation was expressed to Cindi for a wonderful "new look" to our newsletter, and to Rebecca who always does such an awesome job with our book reviews! Our next Newsletter, is due to go out at the end of April. Jann discussed including more of up-coming library programs in our newsletter, as well. It was decided that a separate letter would go out from Betsy about the Annual FOL meeting, as usual, rather than sending the newsletter earlier in the month, just to add that announcement into it!

Next month we will re-visit all of our information to include for our annual FOL meeting which will be held this year on Tuesday April 26 th, 2022 at the LeGrand Center featuring Cassandra King Conroy, as guest speaker. Hopefully, COVID allowing.

Library Director Wright Adams reported that: The Blanton Foundation did approve \$10,200.00 for the new Teen Center!! Yay! Work will begin soon. Thanks was expressed to Liz Flowers for her help in working with Wright, and writing the cover letter for the grant request to the Blanton Foundation. These grants, are adding so many new opportunities for our library and Cleveland County residents. Every FOL member is encouraged to attend the Ribbon Cutting Monday, February 7th at 11:00am as dignitaries, and the community, are invited to hear our Director and Staff explain and demonstrate the new Makerspace! There will be a Local Authors Event held Saturday February 12th at 11:00am to allow local authors to speak and display their books.

In Celebration of Black History Month, there will be children story times, but also two African American Authors for Women will be held on March 19 th with Dr. Janaka Bowman Lewis, who will discuss Gender

and Genius in Black Women's Writing at 11:00am, then on March 26th , Dr. Ozalle Toms, will discuss her new book, titled Letting Perseverance Finish, themes on foster care, child abuse, and how we can make a difference, also at 11:00am.

Local Poet and professor, Dr. Alden Sproull, will read some of his poetry and discuss his book, Walking Along the Edge, on April 23rd at 11:00am. We have many new exciting programs coming to both our library and the Spangler branch for the spring and summer!

Betty Blanton suggested that we go ahead and reserve the large conference room for both May and November for our annual book sales. Suggestions were made for either May 16th or 23rd for consideration.

As we closed Roger Harris did a special recognition for Richard Hooker's wife, who recently passed away, Linda Hooker, who worked for our library for 36 years as an Outreach Librarian, and to her many tireless hours dedicated to our library system. Jann announced our next meeting will be March 1st at 11:00 am and she has reserved the large conference room for an in-person meeting, COVID permitting. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Kay Harvell