Minutes of WFPL Board of Governance Regular Board Meeting

Monday, October 23, 2023 at 4:00 pm,

Tryon Library, 1200 Langley Ave, FL 32504

Board Members Present:

* Robin Reshard, Library Board of Governance, Chair
* Lori NeSmith, Library Board of Governance, Vice Chair
* Liza Campbell, Library Board of Governance, Member
* Kathleen Crook, Library Board of Governance, Member
* Kenneth “Blaine” Wall, Library Board of Governance, Member

Administration Present:

* Christal Bell-Rivera, Deputy Director Library Services

1. Call to Order

* Robin Reshard called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm
* Proof of Publication was received
* Quorum is present

1. Pledge of Allegiance

* Blaine Wall led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

1. Public Forum

* No members of the public were present

1. Approval of Agenda

* The agenda was approved with the Annual Service Plan being reviewed but moved to November 13, 2023 meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes

* Lori NeSmith made a motion to approve the August 28, 2023 minutes. Liza Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

1. Chairman’s Report

* Chairman spoke about the Friends of West Florida Public Library 50th Gala that was held on Friday, 10/20/23. Reshard enjoyed meeting author Craig Pittman.

1. Library Director’s Report

Deputy Director Christal Bell-Rivera spoke about the current state of:

* Dr. Norman Vickers, founder of the Jazz Society of Pensacola (Jazz Pensacola) passed away. Dr. Vickers was a great supporter of WFPL and WFPL’s jazz collection.
* Brownsville remodel anticipated completion Jan. 2025
* The Friends of West Florida Public Library Gala was featured on WEAR TV 3. The Library received positive media coverage during the feature.
* Pensacola Little Theatre (PLT) invited Library staff to the dress rehearsal for Alabama Story.
* The League of Women Voters Pensacola Bay Area held a meeting at the Tryon Library on 10/21/23 to bring awareness about book ban concerns. This was featured on WEAR TV 3.
* Oct is American Archives Month. Pensacola News Journal (PNJ) highlighted UWF’s preservation of history and service.
* County staff received a 3% pay increase on 9/30/23.
* On 10/1/2023, Blue Arbor temporary staff members’ rate of pay was increased from $11.00 per hour to $14.75.
* We received BOCC signatures and approval for state grant application for FY 23/24. The estimated awarded amount is expected to be $91,431.
* From 10/1/22-10/1/23, we reduced the number of vacancies from 17 to 10.

As of 10/2/2023, number of vacant FTEs were seven (7) with five (5) pending onboarding. Projected to have one (1) vacant position by mid-November. The vacant position is for STEAM Senior Librarian that has been difficult to fill.

* Board Members were provided a Program/Event Calendar for the month of October for all branches to highlight scheduled programming.
* 2 quilt machines were purchased. Classes and training for quilting will be implemented in programming. Both quilt machines are currently housed at the Pensacola Library.
* Police Chief Randall with Pensacola Police Department attended Cocoa with a Cop.
* We held three (3) Touch a Truck Events
* Youth Services Coordinator is continuing to partner develop with community members to grow programming. Police, Fire, and Smokey the Bear have been in attendance for story time and programming.

VIII. New Business

* The Annual Service Plan was reviewed and discuss. Questions proposed by the Board included, “How are we measuring goals? Who and what is the Annual Service being written for?”

IX. Open Board Discussion

X. Next Meeting

Monday, November 13, 2023, 4:00 p.m. at the Westside Library, 1301 W. Gregory St., Pensacola, FL 32502

XI. Adjournment – Motion made to adjourn by Lori NeSmith. Seconded by Kathleen Crook. Meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm.