

LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

Minutes of Meeting

November 21, 2024

The Lincoln Parish Library Board of Control Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Chair Jan Canterbury. Board members Bill Jones, Deborah Gilliam, Richard Pyles, Milton Melton, and Amanda Norris were present. Absent from the meeting were Sandra Dupree, Eric McCulloch, and Mary Jo Cooper. Library Director Jeremy Bolom was also in attendance.

The invocation was given by Mr. Melton.

Mr. Pyles made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Melton seconded the motion. All yes, motion carried.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Jones made the motion to approve the minutes for the October 17, 2024, meeting. Mr. Melton seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried.

Chair Canterbury called on Director Bolom to present the amended 2024 budget. Bolom stated that the largest increase the amended budget was for "furniture and fixtures." Although this extra spending was covered by the legacy donation of Barry and Ruth Johnson, the amount needed to be added to the appropriate budget line. Mr. Melton made a motion to accept the amended 2024 budget. Mr. Jones seconded. All yes. Motion carried.

Bolom continued with the proposed 2025 operating budget. Most numbers remained flat; however, some increased, most noticeably the salaries and wages lines which included a 2.5% pay increase for all employees out of probation and the "building and grounds" line which included the additional \$500,000 from surplus funds that will be used for repairs and improvements recommended by the Building and Grounds committee last month. Mr. Jones made a motion to accept the proposed 2025 budget. Mrs. Norris seconded. All yes. Motion carried.

Chair Canterbury asked Bolom to present his proposed "Library Holidays and Closures" for 2025. Bolom said that all were standard except for the request for an extended closure through the weekend following the Christmas holiday. He stated that the Library traffic is very slow through December. After a brief discussion, which included asking the Police Jury if there was any issue with the Library being closed for five days, Mr. Pyles made a motion to accept the "Library Holidays and Closures" schedule as presented with the extended Christmas holiday closure. Mr. Jones seconded. All yes. Motion carried.

Friends of the Library Liaison Gilliam gave a summary of the last FOL board meeting and expressed her pleasure in being one of the Friends volunteers at the Monster Mash and MedCamps Halloween outreach events.

There was no correspondence and communication.

During his financial report, Director Bolom said that the budget remains on track, minus the adjustments made previously with the amendment. There were no questions about the budget.

He then presented the statistics for October, which showed an increase in circulation and Library visits. Community and study room use was also up, but the most impressive numbers were found in Library outreach which included six events where Library staff reached an estimated 3865 people.

In his report, Bolom summarized his professional activities and projects, which included the start of Black History Month and Geektogether planning. He announced a part-time position open in the User and Information Services department due to a resignation, and that the Police Jury Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 6pm. Many of the staff are planning to attend. He pointed out upcoming programs including the Nutcracker Parade and the Friends' Bulldog welcome events.

With no further discussions, Mr. Melton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Norris seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm.