

LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

Minutes of Meeting

February 20, 2025

The Lincoln Parish Library Board of Control Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Chair Jan Canterbury. All Board members [Sandra Dupree, Bill Jones, Milton Melton, Amanda Norris, Stephanie Smith, Eric McCulloch, Richard Pyles, and Deborah Gilliam] were present. Library Director Jeremy Bolom was also in attendance.

The invocation was given by Mr. Melton.

Director Bolom took a few moments to introduce five staff members from three different departments to the Board.

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

There were no public comments.

Once Chair Canterbury called for approval of the minutes for the January 16, 2025, meeting, Director Bolom noted a correction that was emailed to him. It required the addition of Ms. Dupree to the Events Center committee members list. Ms. Dupree made the motion to approve the minutes for the January 16, 2025, meeting with the given correction. Mrs. Norris seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Canterbury called for discussion on setting a plan for three future meeting dates with conflicts in 2025. The first, March 20, falls during the Louisiana Library Association conference, where Director Bolom and three board members would be in attendance; the second, June 19, falls on the Library's Juneteenth holiday closing; and the third, September 18, falls during the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference, where Director Bolom and Assistant Director Jessica Barrilleaux would be in attendance. Mr. Jones made a motion to change the March meeting date to Wednesday, March 19 at 5pm; to change the June meeting date to Wednesday, June 18 at 5pm; and for Business Manager, Maria Goree, to serve as Library representative at the September 18 meeting. Mrs. Norris seconded. All yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Jones reported for the Legislative Committee which was in the process of scheduling elected State Legislators to visit the Library for a tour.

During the Events Center Committee report, Mr. McCulloch brought up that the Convention and Visitor's Board, where he also serves, now has a fulltime employee who is seeking to bring conferences and events to Ruston, with the Library Events Center being a major selling point. However, without the allowance of alcohol in the facility, there is a hesitance of some groups to consider the venue. Mr. Jones noted that the committee is seriously looking this issue. Present at the meeting was CVB representative, Amanda Carrier, who was asked on her opinion on the matter. She emphasized the statements by Mr. McCulloch by summarizing the economic impact these conference and events would have on the local

economy. Mr. Jones thanked Ms. Carrier for her attendance and said that he will call a meeting of the Events Center Committee soon.

Ms. Gilliam provided the Friends of the Library report, which included their work with the LPL Readers Club Gala (held that night) and the Community Garage sale on March 8.

Mr. Bolom read a postcard he received prompting Board Members to save the date for the annual Trail Blazer Trustee Meeting which will be held Friday, October 3 at the Ferriday Library.

During his financial report, Director Bolom mentioned that with the start of a new year, several memberships were has been renewed. There were no questions about the budget.

He then presented the statistics for January. He noted that Library use numbers are up from December, and that the large number of discards is due to the removal of back issue magazines and a continued weeding project.

In his report, Bolom summarized his professional activities. He also commented on preparations for the upcoming Geektogether in March. Parish IT had begun transferring the Library server to the Court House and installing new phones, which would bring the Library under the Parish system. With the server migration, work can begin on the security cameras installation. Additionally, two part-time positions were filled. He noted many of the wonderful Black History Month programs arranged by staff member Tony Lewis, who was met earlier in the meeting, and referred everyone to the full listing in the current Library newsletter.

With no further discussions, Ms. Dupree made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. McCulloch seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:36pm.