

DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Thursday, January 17, 2019 6-8 p.m.
Library Administration Building, 101 E. Morgan Street

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Hank Kinsley called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Mrinmay Biswas, Phillip Harris, Meli Kimathi, Hank Kinsley, Luis Olivieri-Robert, Willis Whichard, Angela Wilson

Tammy Baggett, Leander Croker, Anita Robinson - Staff

Friends Liaison: Michelle Burton

Absent: James Hill - Board of County Commissioners Liaison

Absent: Sandra Chambers

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve November minutes: H. Kinsley Second: P. Harris

Motion passed unanimously.

II. PRESENTATION OF LIBRARY RESOURCE

Libraries and Entrepreneurship (L. Croker)

Libraries and Entrepreneurship Learning Cohort with Urban Libraries Council, funded by Kauffman Foundation. Chosen out of 80 applicants to be able to better support business community, who have expressed desire to feel more welcome at library.

Cohort consists of 11 libraries across US and Canada

Focus: Embedding library into entrepreneurial ecosystem, with partners such as BB&T, members of start-up community, and Durham Tech Small Business Center (LaShawn Harley)

Relevant programming: Business tax, Social media marketing, business banking, and the art of the one-page business plan

Development of the Incubation Space at renovated Main Library

Impact: DCL featured on ULC Entrepreneurial blog

Gained insight on how to develop space to support business community

Old Business

Advocacy Breakfast – Ms. Kimathi explained items Advocacy Committee discussed, and requested additional Board participants and how to move forward. Consensus to hold breakfast in October 2019. Ms. Robinson and Mr. Olivieri-Robert will assist in planning the event.

The Planning Committee is authorized to proceed without additional BOT input.

New timing means that Main becomes a possible location.

The due date for the BOT Annual Report is June 30, 2019. Ms. Baggett will circulate previous draft via email for group's use in developing new format.

Bylaws question regarding commissioners has been resolved and Ms. Robinson will send revised bylaws to board members.

New Business

The board will have a vacant position to replace trustee Dawn Trembath, who resigned the end of 2018. Applications will be accepted through February 2019 and the board will forward a recommendation to the County at our March meeting. Ms. Baggett recommends that we consider what skill-sets we need represented on the Board of Trustees.

REPORTS FROM LIBRARY STAFF

Director's Report (T. Baggett)

The tentative opening date for Main is early 2020.

Traveling to Durham County Library locations and to NC A&T to survey furniture and make decisions for Main.

Mr. Kinsley inquired about contents from previous Main, and Ms. Baggett responded some have been redistributed to other locations, some are in storage, and some will be auctioned by the County at an appointed time.

Meetings are underway with staff to discuss the various details that will be needed at Main in preparation for opening in early 2020.

The budget process has started and several positions will be requested for Main Library. Working out details on positions and how to present them. BOT support is again requested. Funds are also requested for furniture replacement at Regional locations, training/travel, programming, and collection. Now is the time to ask ahead of new building.

Ms. Baggett informed BOT of a movement to eliminate library fines. If entertained in Durham, there would still be fees for damaged and missing books. BOT questions: Does the money go to

the County or the library? What's to keep me from keeping a book for a year? What other alternatives will be offered, other than citing research? What about cultivating a donor to "sponsor" fines (current annual average ~\$200k) What about raising the sanction threshold instead? This is only an exploratory phase. Questions will be considered as we research the topic.

Bragtown is still closed and contractors are surveying the damage to bid on the construction work. Library is checking on the feasibility of expanding the facility, and checking in with community about their needs.

Southwest Regional is still experiencing parking issues and is exploring installing an outdoor book drop, which is surprisingly difficult. There is a receptacle in storage, and on the 29th engineering and general services will do a walk-through.

Ms. Baggett shared there will be a soft launch in April of technology mobile in concert with National Bookmobile Day.

There are building issues at Stanford L. Warren related to heating and humidity that need to be handled. These issues are being addressed by Durham County Government.

Health Report (T. Baggett)

The Edge report was distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Biswas inquired how the Edge information is used. Ms. Baggett stated Durham County Library is in the top 10 and doing great work, and the goal is to maintain and to improve where possible.

Advocacy Report (M. Kimathi)

No additional report was given at this time.

Art Committee (M. Biswas)

Committee has been meeting regularly and is now actively seeking artist submissions.

Board Development & Evaluation Committee

Board Development - Last meeting involved additional follow-up from retreat; would like for board efforts to better support literacy. Ms. Wilson recommends follow-up with Durham Public Schools since their presentation at the last BOT retreat.

Policy Committee (T. Hill)

No report was given at this time.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Friends of Durham County Library Report (M. Burton)

The Friends underwent a bylaw revision and discussed proposals for funding from Staff.

- Books in barbershops
- Selection of book for Durham Reads Together (Recommended: *The Hate U Give*)
- Reaching Students Where They Are – for MakerSpace partnerships in community organizations during the summer
- Staff activities funding
- Supper & Science for Latino families
- A substantial amount of money to the Library Foundation in support of renovated Main

Durham County Library Foundation Report (T. Baggett)

Foundation soft launch around giving and naming opportunities. A community campaign is forthcoming.

Action Items (M. Kimathi)

Retreat Planning Committee (Advocacy Committee along with Ms. Robinson and Mr. Olivieri-Robert will meet in early March.

Ms. Robinson will look into Sharepoint Training and County Orientation for Trustees who still need it.

Ms. Baggett will forward an example of an annual report for BOT consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn: Motion: Mr. Harris Second: Ms. Wilson
The meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.