

DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023
6:00 p.m.
MAIN LIBRARY and VIA ZOOM CALL

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Willis Whichard called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present: Mrinmay Biswas, Miguel Jackson, Hank Kinsley, Ann McLain, Luis Olivieri-Robert, Willis Whichard

Friends Liaison: Monika Tillman-DeWitt

Absent: Katie Kaefer, kynita stringer-stanback

Staff: Stephanie Fennell, Maria Ramirez, Anita Robinson

Guest: Molly Hansen - UNC-G Student

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments were made.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve December minutes: W. Whichard Second: L. Olivieri-Robert
Minutes approved unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

III. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

Committee Updates (W. Whichard)

Advocacy Report

Advocacy Committee has not met. Ms. McLain volunteered to serve on the committee. The committee will consist of Mr. Whichard, Mr. Olivieri-Robert and Ms. McLain.

Art Committee (M. Biswas)

Art Committee has not met. A report was not given at this time.

Board Development & Evaluation Committee (H. Kinsley)

Board Development & Evaluation Committee has not met.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Durham County Library Foundation Report (W. Whichard)

The Foundation met in January. Feature of meeting was a presentation by Kate Shirah “Philanthropy in an Uncertain Economy.” Mr. Whichard attended “The Triumph of American Music” program on January 11, 2023, presented by John Edward Hasse, the Curator Emeritus of the Smithsonian Institute. Dr. Hasse was sponsored by the Library’s Humanities Program with funding from the Library Foundation.

Friends of the Library (M. Tillman-DeWitt)

The Friends will offer a pop-up sale in February. In the past a potluck was held for volunteer appreciation and they are trying to determine an event for this year. Community focus will be to branch out more in the community, targeting Hispanic community, Durham Bulls, and CenterFest. Membership is increasing with a total of 79 renewals and new memberships. The Friends have a new logo and will reveal it soon.

Library Reports (S. Fennell)

Maria Ramirez – Spanish Services Programming

Ms. Ramirez presented an overview of Spanish Services Programming.

Homework with Amigos

- **Goal:** To create a sense of belonging at the public library. Provide a safe space for K-5 students to find resources and a fun environment to complete homework assignments.
- **What we provide:**
 - Help with big projects (craft supplies, posters, etc.)
 - Access to technology and electronic resources.
 - **Not** a tutoring service (although we can provide assistance with questions as they arise).
 - **Not** a babysitting service (parents will be on-site and responsible).
- **Time/ Location:**
 - Every Monday from 5:15pm-7:15pm starting February 6th
 - Main Library MakerLab on 1st floor.

Conéctate - Un programa de computación básico para familias

Goal: To reduce the barriers to access applications and programs regularly used by the Durham Public School system to communicate and present students with academic information.

Curriculum: The topics discussed during the 90-minute sessions included device basics and password management, email, communication apps and tools, Google Drive, the Powerschool Portal and Durham County Library resources, and the impact of social media on children.

Materials provided by DPS Foundation: Facilitator guide with week-by-week lesson plans and pacing guides, slide deck for each lesson (editable version as well as a master copy for reference), and incentive for completing course (Lenovo 300e 2nd Gen laptops)

Cine infantil en español

- This event is sponsored by the Durham County Library, the Department of Romance Studies and the Spanish Language Program at Duke University.
- **Goal:** provide screenings of Spanish-language films for children, to highlight the beauty of the language as well as introduce kids to Latin American culture and folklore. We also focus on films that highlight literacy and educational themes.

Policies Consideration (S. Fennell)

Ms. Fennell discussed proposed amendments to the Large Meeting Room and Study Room Policy. Board members were provided drafts prior to the meeting to review.

Motion to accept with amendments: L. Olivieri-Robert Second: A. McLain

Motion passed.

Recording Studio Policy – This is a newly created policy by staff. The policy is only for recording.

Motion to approve policy with changes: L. Olivieri-Robert Second: A. McLain

Motion passed.

Library Updates (S. Fennell)

- Main is offering programs at different venues in the community.
- Bragtown is featuring local artists each month. Will begin offering beginner sewing classes soon.
- Carter Cue offered a modernism program.
- North Regional is offering Dungeons and Dragons.
- South Regional will host a Martin Luther King scavenger hunt.
- The Southwest Regional Manager position has been posted.

Closing Comments

No closing comments at this time.

Action Items (A. Robinson)

There were no action items.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn: A. McLain Second: L. Olivieri-Robert

The next meeting will be held February 16, 2023, Main Library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.