

Madison County Library
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes (draft)
May 21, 2025

Attending: Charles Carter, Cindy Taylor, Ruth Harbin Miles, Mary Anne Hankla, Sandra Nowell, Diane Heckel, Gary Jones, Bonnie Utz, Sam Cate, Molly Walters, Kate Rakowski, Jill Quinley,

Unable to Attend: Jim Jewett, Cheryl Yowell

Opening:

Diane called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM.

Sandra moved and Molly seconded to approve Mar 18, 2024 minutes. All approved.

Library Director's Report: Bonnie
Library Statistics 7/1/24 thru 5/19/25

Circulation totals: **33,819**

Overdrive ebook and audio usage: **6,982**

Patrons Added: **194 Adult 41 Child**

Updated Patrons: **1,158**

WiFi usage: **8,860 sessions 14,092.69 hours**

Titles added: **1,611**

Update from Bonnie:

- Fran and I have been working hard on the Summer Reading Programs. We are in the process now of delivering enticements and speeches to the various schools. We are talking to whole school assemblies. We take prize examples and tell them about the book give-a-way.
 - Board members and other adults encouraged to attend programs as follows:
 - Paws to Read every Tuesday in June and July @ 10:00
 - Science Heroes - June 10 @ 11:00
 - The VA Wildlife Center - June 13 @ 11:00
 - Create Art at the Library - June 18 @ 11:00
 - Wizard of Oz play - June 24 @ 11:00
 - Magician Steve Somers "Color Your World" - July 1 @ 11:00
 - Uncle Henry's "See and Touch" Gallery - July 8 from 11:00 - 3:00
 - Pinocchio & Robin Hood play - July 15 @ 11:00
 - Jack Tales Puppets - July 22 @ 11:00
 - End of Summer Blowout with Super Fun Slides - July 23 from 10:00-12:00
- We have a small Girl Scout troop that has been working with us on getting the books separated into age groups, ready to giveaway all summer. They also want to see if there

is an interest in forming a book club with Middle and High School students. They would meet here once or twice a month. I would be monitoring.

- The scholarship program was long but enlightening. The outgoing class is one of those classes that had a majority of very successful kids. Our recipient, William Lillard, was thrilled to be honored by us. He and his parents are grateful.
- I attended a dinner to honor the Lion's Club Citizen of the Year. It is our own Heidi Sage. Heidi has been on our Board and a Friend of the Library volunteer (both as a worker and as president) for many years. I am so glad to see her get the recognition she deserves.
- Fiscally, Gary and I are preparing for a lean year next year. Not knowing the future of our federal grants, we are buying today in prep for next year. The essentials that we need to cover and catalog books are being bought this fiscal year. We are stocking up where and how we can.

Treasurer's report: Gary/Bonnie

- Gary sat in on both Culpeper and Orange budget hearings; they are also in limbo on budgeting for next year.
- Diane and Gary reinvested both of the CD's that came due.
- Proposed cuts to Library of VA, internet, etc
 - According to the state library, our monies are good until the spring of 2026.
- We have not heard from the BOS yet about our budget request for next fiscal year.
 - We asked for a \$9,900 increase from this year but we have heard that they will keep funding flat for next year.
- Give Local Piedmont donations were down from last year.
- SIIt was suggested that the letter drive really emphasizes how important their support is this year.
 - Gary suggested that we time it in September, sandwiched between the summer and Christmas seasons.
- Treasurer report attached

Committee reports

FOL - Jill

- FOL finished the bathroom renovations.
- They will support summer reading programs

Grounds and maintenance - Charles

- Nothing significant to report.
- Charles will repair a gutter.

Fundraising -

- The group will meet ASAP to write a new letter to have it out by September.

- The change in federal funding could give us an opportunity to focus more on our local community and encourage Madison county to support the programs we provide which fill demonstrated need.
- Some committee members could interview parents at story hour to get quotations demonstrating support for the library.

Five year plan -

- Ruth handed out the plan.
 - Ruth moved and Sam seconded to adopt the plan as written. All approved.
- The committee will meet to work on the plan soon.

Scholarship committee - Cindy

- Bonnie presented it to William Lillard last week.
- Cindy passed around his application.
 - It's impressive and the library has been a big part of his life.
- Cindy wrote a press release and will get a picture with William sent to the paper.

Library expansion committee -

- We are mostly putting these plans on hold due to the tightness of the budget until and unless we hear from the Thompson Foundation about their grant.
- Discussion ensued regarding proceeding with some parts.
- In July, we should at least complete the discussion of the plans that Mr. Puckett handed out to decide which version of the plans we like the most.

Endowment -

- It's continuing to grow and we are not doing anything with it until it reaches \$750,000.

Old Business

- Raffle quilt will happen soon.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 7 PM.

Sam moved and Ruth seconded for adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.