

SUMNER COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

March 15, 2023

MINUTES

Present Trustees:

Jackie Wilber, Chairman
Diane Johnson, Treasurer
Ruth Fennell
Beth Key
Debbie Martin
Joanna Daniels
Beverly Hyde

Others Present:

Allan Morales, Hendersonville Library Manager
Cecille Maynor, Director of Libraries (in audience)

Minutes taken by: Suzie Troutt

Absent:

Anita Lamberth, Portland Library Manager
Gabby Cato, Gallatin Library Manager
Annie Corbitt, Millersville Library Manager
Lauren Rippy, Westmoreland Library Manager

1. & 2. Call to Order & Roll Call:

Jackie Wilber, Chairman, stated that Anita Ellis has resigned unofficially and Anne Whiteside had officially resigned since the last meeting. There is a quorum so Chairman Wilber called the rescheduled bi-monthly meeting of the Sumner County Library Board to order, Wednesday, March 15 at 2:32 p.m. in the Chambers at the Sumner County Administration Building.

3. Introduction of guests:

Chairman Wilber had a sign in sheet for the public speakers. Announced the Code of Recognition; each speaker will have 3 minutes. Please be respectful and do not be disrupting.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Jackie Wilber, Chairman, asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Joanna Daniels motioned to approve and adopt the original agenda. Debbie Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Deleting reports from the managers.

5. Public Speakers:

Mayor Isbell mentioned the concerns about the event at the Hendersonville Library. It was a success. He asked the Library Board to review the policies and training of the library staff

Renee Brewer is a private investigator. She was asked professionally to look into the event at the Hendersonville Library. She backed out from who hired her. She did her own investigating and she apologized for the original post that she made. She met with Allan Morales in person and apologized to him and apologized to all the libraries. The work they do is amazing. She asked that everyone please stop the threats to Allan Morales and the libraries.

Shelby Davis appreciated what Renee Brewer said. She has worked with many libraries. Allan Morales was hired and has done a great job with the hurdles he has had. Excellent people skills. Allan has done great work in updating the library. He's a great asset to Hendersonville Library.

Linda Gilmore former pastor's wife and educator. She is known Allan Morales and his family since they moved next door. He is a man of character. Minimal to no complaints until February the 25th.

Greg Leith wants appropriate actions to be taken. He's concerned with any materials in the children or juvenile section that Christians find offensive. Visits show decorations of events or promotions of the citizens taxpayers. He's not seeing decorations for all nationalities.

Hope Hardy hopes to get the facts. Regarding this matter we need to get all the facts. Mistakes were made and hope to hear both sides today.

Marilyn Kleist, Allen's sister. It's been a difficult two weeks for everyone. His name has been slandered and it will affect him forever. Only her brother and staff have been blamed. No one on Kirk's team at all. There are have been attacks on him and all of his family. God leads Allen in his life.

Bethany McClennon had been told the event was canceled originally. Then heard it was still going on. She got there at 8 that morning and waited in the rain with many other people. Seemed unorganized.

Debbie Anglin attended the event. No one knew anything went on that was unkind. The speakers were kind and professional. They wanted to do 2 promos for 60 seconds. Asked the staff for 60 seconds of quiet and the staff did not grant that. Otherwise, it was very loving and full of positivity. Now Hendersonville has a negative against it because of that instance.

Tim Jones was there from before and after the event. County commissioner Missy Robertson told him he has a very rude staff. The bodyguard also told him the same thing. Met with Kirk Cameron and also was told the same thing. Riley Gaines was talking to the public and telling her side. She told him about the video interruptions and he told Joanna Daniels about it. She met with them individually. A letter from an anonymous staffer said only a couple were disrespectful. Not the entire staff. He read the letter from the staffer. Mr. Jones had asked some people to remove negative post and they did. He does not think Allan Morales is a bad person just made bad decisions. During his speaking he asked and was granted extra time. Diane Johnson made a motion; Ruth seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Irving we arrived at 8:30 to the event. Daughter was cold and they did not get inside until 10:20. Why the side door? She heard Kirk Cameron say "Please get these people in and make it happen." Is this how you treat book readers? Are public servants allowed to treat the public like this? Recommend this one staffer to be terminated. If this is how the public library staff acts, then there are consequences to his or her actions.

Closed the public recognition at 3:17pm.

6. Approval of the minutes: Diane Johnson approves both sets of minutes. Debbie Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

7. Old Business:

A. Vote for Vice Chairperson: Ruth Fennell made a motion for Joanna Daniels. Joanna Daniels accepted. Debbie Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. Discussion of recently drafted By Laws: Discussed briefly. Joanna Daniels made a motion to discuss in the April 2nd Special Called meeting. Debbie Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

8. New Business:

A. Report of Treasurer, Diane Johnson: All fiscal year end budgets have been turned in by the deadline. Should be returned to us by end of March or first of April. In May we will have a time to discuss. Finance asked to make some adjustments. Those will be done and turned in by Friday. Bookkeeper salary is the only thing left in the Library System Account. Bookkeeper will need to apply for another position to stay with the library. Funds will be transferred where they need to go. Gallatin and Westmoreland are waiting for bids. Tech grant has been approved. Debbie Martin made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Joanna Daniels. Motion passed.

B. Kirk Cameron Event decision: Joanna Daniels made a motion to do an Executive Decision Meeting. Diane Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The staff and the county attorney went to a private room to meet.

Joanna Daniels made a motion to end the Executive Decision Meeting. Diane Johnson seconded that motion. Motion passed.

Motion to discuss or motion for action will be made for Allan Morales. Joanna Daniels made the motion for action to terminate Allan Morales. Diane Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken:

Joanna Daniels – Y
Beverly Hyde – N
Jackie Wilber – N

Ruth Fennell – Y
Beth Key – N

Diane Johnson – Y
Debbie Martin – Y

8. Reports: No Library managers are here. Ruth Fennell made a motion to move the reports to the next meeting. Debbie Martin seconded. Motion passed.

9. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Diane Johnson made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Debbie Martin, the Committee adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Suzie Troutt