

**Henry County Library System Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**McDonough Library**  
**November 7, 2011**

- Indicates actions taken

Chairman Gordon Baker called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. Board members present were Cicely Bland, Pat Watson, Marianne Morfoot, Sandy McGarity, and Jan Lowe. Also present were Director Carolyn Fuller, Assistant Directors Kathy Pillatzki, Pam Bagby, and Allison Moyer, and Bookkeeper Deb Morris. Also present was Deidre Jones, Valdosta State University student who had come to observe.

### **Approval of Agenda**

- After introductions to benefit Deidre, the agenda was approved on a motion by Jan Lowe, seconded by Pat Watson.

### **Approval of Minutes**

- The Minutes of the August Regular Meeting were approved on a motion by Marianne Morfoot, seconded by Sandy McGarity.

### **Director's Report**

Carolyn reported that the Race to Read held by the Friends raised \$4100 for the library. The book sale in October raised \$1100. The library recently discovered that it was eligible to order supplies through RESA (Regional Educational Service Agency) at discounted prices. Deb is learning to use their website, so that the library can take advantage of the savings on office supplies, craft supplies, and equipment.

Three staff members, Tracy Ralston, Deborah Walburn, and Aimee Leavitt presented a session at COMO on cooperation between public libraries and schools. It was well received. Gordon thanked Carolyn, Kathy, and Allison for taking charge of the exhibits at Como while he was out of town.

BJ Mathis has set up a cultural forum in order to have more locations available in Henry County for cultural events. Many of the current venues are taken up with school productions and events.

Staff Day was planned by Allison and the Planning Committee (which consists of a staff member from each branch). It included Defensive Driving, Fire Safety, Working with Challenging Patrons, an informative Red Cross about blood donations, and Heart Healthy. It went well.

Henry County Library System is one of three systems in the state testing the acquisitions model to go along with the catalog that will follow items all the way through processing and show their status.

The presentation to Leadership Henry went well. Participants learned a lot about the library, and many went to renew or acquire a library card once they realized all the services that were available.

Kathy noted that October was National Book Month and National Cookie Month, so the Great American Cookie Company approached us about running a promotion in which people received a free cookie for bring in a gently used book for the library. We received 266 books, but more importantly, it was good community relations. The community seems to be becoming more aware of the value of its libraries.

Kathy also noted that she will be working with Connecting Henry on Community Christmas. They want every child to receive a book. Kathy and other staff will go to the Scholastic Warehouse which is arranging a special day for us to go select books. These books will be purchased by donations raised by Connecting Henry (approximately \$2,000). A doctor featured in Time magazine is trying to encourage other doctors to give a book to each baby on their well-baby visit. This would be a good partnership with the Ferst Foundation. Early literacy is becoming more of a priority.

Cicely shared with Carolyn and the board that Commissioner Holmes gave a glowing report of Carolyn's presentation that took place at the Town Hall meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup>. She said she encouraged him to write it in a letter. The theme of the meeting was education which is why Cicely encouraged Commissioner Holmes to include the library. Carolyn said it was a good meeting (50-60 attendees), and people were able to see that there was a lot of good history between the school system and the public library.

Kristin Vogel, Vice President of Sales and Business Development for mk Sorting Systems Inc., presented information about the LibDispenser. It will hold 876 inches worth of items, ties in with PINES, is searchable, and items can be returned to the box. It is also very expensive, so Carolyn would like to contact Henry Medical Center, the Country Club, banks, and businesses on the west side of I75 who have been asking for a library for a long time to see if they would be interesting in funding the Dispenser. If successful, the statistics from the Dispenser can be used to justify the need for a library in that area. It is a well-built machine meant to stand up to anyone who might try to compromise it. It could be stocked with a few best-sellers as well as some of our donations. Carolyn will also do some comparison shopping to see if mk Sorting Systems Inc is the best vendor to go with for this product.

- Cicely Bland moved that Carolyn further explore the idea of getting sponsors like the Henry Medical Center to invest in a LibDispenser (like a Red Box for library materials). Pat Watson seconded the motion. The Board agreed.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Each Trustee was given a copy of their branch's financials. The reports showed how much was spent on books for each branch.

### **Old Business:**

We've done our part in getting the old HA building up to code. Now it is up to the interested parties to get the zoning changed to what they need.

No one came to the first focus group meeting, but Cicely has plans to try one at the recreation center in Fairview sometime in mid-February. More publicity will be helpful as well as serving light refreshments. Cicely will reach out to her Home Owners Association, Commissioner Holmes, and local churches.

### **New Business**

The Board and those in attendance at the meeting discussed the current rule of not allowing juveniles to access the internet on their own cards and without tight parental supervision. Allison asked the board to consider loosening these restrictions to allow for juveniles to access the internet with their own cards. The discussion that ensued made it clear that the Board was open to this idea.

- Cicely Bland moved that Allison continue to pursue changing the current policy to allow children to access the internet via their own cards. Allison and Carolyn will review the policies of nearby counties as part of their research. Marianne Morfoot seconded the motion and the Board approved it.

### **Adjournment**

- There being no further business the meeting was adjourned, at 6:35 PM on a motion by Sandy McGarity, seconded by Cicely Bland.